FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 066 *4 April 1984*

ARGENTINA

Opposition Reaction to Alfonsin Debt Speech Mixed		B 1
Mexico's De la Madrid Arrives on Official Visit		B 2
Asks Mexicans To Aid Argentina		B 2
Commentator Views Fishing Agreement With Cuba	[LA PRENSA 29 Mar]	B 3
Officials on Nuclear Budget, Pressures		B 4
'Possible' UK, U.S. Atomic Waste Dump Denounced		B 5
Justicialists on Alfonsin's First 100 Days	[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 30 Mar]	B 5
Interior Minister Meets With Peronist Leader		B 6
'Calm' Reported Between Regime, Armed Forces	[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 30 Mar]	B 7
Army Staff Chief Requests Suarez' Discharge		B 7
Former Commanders 'Accusers, Not Defendants'	[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 29 Mar]	B 7
Former Armed Forces Heads To Be Tried for Coup		B 8
Official Says News Media Must Report All Views		B 8
1983 Commercial Balance Leaves Surplus		B 9
Government To Renegotiate Oil Contracts		B 9
OAS Human Rights Official Visits, Meets Alfonsin		B 9

BOLIVIA

Siles Says Elections in November Unlikely		C 1
Opposition Party Demands Siles' Resignation		C 1
Minister Scores Argentine Deferment of Payments		C 1
Public Servants Strike for Salary Increase		C 2
Strike Lifted		C 2
Industry Complains Over Strikes, Lack of Currency		C 3
Terrorists Bomb Santa Cruz Radio Station		C 3
Peasants Say Peruvians Violated National Border	[PRESENCIA 30 Mar]	C 3

BRAZIL

Figueiredo Lauds L.A. Joint Effort To Face Crisis	[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 30 Mar]	D 1
Mexico Wants To Exclude Oil From Trade Balance	[JORNAL DO BRASIL 30 Mar]	D 2

CHILE

Reactions Positive to Ministerial Changes		E 1
Christian Democrat Valdes		E 1
Opposition Parties, Others		E 1
New Economy Minister on Goals of Administration		E 2
French Vice Consul Declared Persona Non Grata		E 2
Communist Leader: Party Helping Subversion		E 3

Front Proposes Commandos To Fight Terrorism E 3
CNT Proposes National Reconciliation Commission E 4
Navy Acquires Destroyer From Great Britain E 4

COLOMBIA

France Offers To Remove Mines in Nicaragua Ports F 1

PARAGUAY

Columnist Attacks U.S. Ambassador's Statement [HOY 3 Apr] H 1

PERU

UN Secretary General Arrives for ECLA Meeting J 1
Workers Occupy Spanish Chancery in Lima J 1
Leave Chancery J 1
Doctors Call Nationwide Indefinite Strike J 2
Chile Asked To Investigate Singer's Death J 2
Briefs: Cultural Accord With Japan J 2

URUGUAY

Colorado Party Deplores Blanco Party Walkout K 1

MEXICO

De la Madrid's L.A. Tour Viewed Positively M 1
Bolivian Ambassador on 'Interventionism' in C.A. M 1
Ambassador to OAS on Need for Reform, Bolstering M 2
CTM To Buy 10 Percent of Nationalized Companies M 2

PANAMA

PST Presidential Candidate Barria Interviewed N 1
UNADE's Ardito Barletta Discusses Economy N 3
Election Official Confirms Need for More Funds N 3
Tv Stations Agree on Handling of Political Ads N 4
[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 31 Mar]

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Honduras' Gen Alvarez Holds News Conference P 1
Honduras' Alvarez Arraigned for Disappearances P 6
Government Stance on U.S. Engineers Viewed [LA NACION 23 Mar] P 6

EL SALVADOR

Colonel, Two Guardsmen Killed in Shootout P 7
Authorities in Santa Ana Detain FPL Unit P 7
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 30 Mar]
FMLN, Army Clash Near Dulce Nombre de Maria P 8
FMLN: Honduran Troops, U.S. Adviser on Border P 8
Unit in Position [Venceremos] P 8
Troops, Patrols Said Increasing [Venceremos] P 8
FMLN Reports Attack on Army, Honduran Moves [Venceremos] P 9

GUATEMALA

Foreign Minister Denies U.S. Summit Invitation P 10
Belizean Politician Look at Assembly Seat P 10
Two Army Officers Arrested for Killings P 11

HONDURAS

'Grenadier' Fuel Consumption Causes Concern P 11
Adviser's Comment on 'Peace Agreement' Clarified P 12
Fishing Boat Detained in Colombian Waters P 12
1,500 Miskitos Cross Border From Nicaragua [LA TRIBUNA 2 Apr] P 12

NICARAGUA

D'Escoto Sends Protest Note to Honduras P 13
ARDE's Mining of Lake Protested to Costa Rica P 13
Ruiz Comments on Defense Policy During GDR Visit P 14
Culture Minister Cardenal Returns From Abroad P 14
[EL NUEVO DIARIO 26 Mar]
U.S. Plan To Build Airstrip in Honduras Alleged P 14
Work at Soviet-Nicaraguan Hospital Lauded P 15
Activities of Portuguese Politican Questioned P 15
Borge Says EFE Correspondent Can Return P 15
Ramiro Sacasa Board Leader Views Elections P 16
Reportage on Military Clashes in Various Areas P 17
Fighting in Jinotega [San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA 30 Mar] P 17
ARDE Releases Bulletin [Voice of Sandino] P 18
MISURA Attacks Town P 18
Contras Killed in Nueva Segovia P 18
Contras Attack Sandy Bay P 19
ARDE Charges 10 Members Imprisoned in Honduras P 19
Briefs: Delegation to IPU Meeting; Cuban Contingent Arrives; FRG Deputies Visit; International Loan Agreements P 20

CUBA

USSR's 'Leningrad' Remains Anchored in Havana [AFP] Q 1
Castro Congratulates Transportation Workers Q 1
Malmierca Ends Official Visit to France Q 1
Cabrizas Arrives in Peru for ECLA Meeting Q 1
Urban Bus System Now Under ANPP Control Q 2
U.S. Concludes Caribbean Forces Training Q 2
Latin American Economic Crisis Analyzed Q 2
Honduran Events Said To Reveal Internal Struggle Q 3
Salvadoran Army Launches Antiguerrilla Offensive Q 4
Salvadoran Guerrillas Foil Terrorist Operation Q 4
Guatemalan FAR Member on Maneuvers, Elections Q 4
Borge Accuses CIA of Terrorism in Nicaragua Q 5
Nicaragua Protests Honduran Attack on Catarina Q 5
Mines Deactivated in Nicaragua's Port of Corinto Q 6
Court-Martial, Protests in Chile Reported Q 7
Mexican, Brazilian Presidents Hold Summit Q 7
Grenadians Face Elections With Indifference Q 8
Reagan's Letter Unleashes Dominican Debate Q 8

CARIBBEAN

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Outgoing PRC Ambassador on Technical Aid S 1

GRENADA

Authorities Report Arms Cache at Cuban Embassy S 1

JAMAICA

Government Considers Pullout of NAMUCAR S 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRD Deputy Wants IMF Negotiations To Stop V 1

ECUADOR

Electoral Tribunal Issues Call for Elections V 1

OPPOSITION REACTION TO ALFONSIN DEBT SPEECH MIXED

PY032207 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1319 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (NA) -- Oscar Alende, the president of the Intransigent Party [PI] today reasserted his displeasure "over the recent agreement among four Latin American countries and the United States to pay the interest on Argentina's foreign debt since by doing so we have played into the hands of the bankers." Alende declined to comment on President Raul Alfonsin's speech "since the president of Mexico arrives today."

During an interview with NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, the PI leader noted that the negotiations to pay the interest on Argentina's foreign debt have led us "into the hands of foreign bankers." Alende said that "if this agreement had not been reached, these bankers could have been punished by their country's congress for what in the United States is called "unwise conduct" [conducta imprudente]. He added that the recent agreement is backed by a bridge loan granted by the United States but he noted that "the bridge loan will be granted if and when Argentina arrives at an agreement with the IMF which implies that certain economic readjustments will have to be made."

Alende declined to comment about the presidential speech "since Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid is arriving today." However, he noted that he was surprised when Alfonsin noted that "the situation in which we found the government was worse than what all of us had expected." Alende said: "Not all of us, perhaps a group of persons, since for a long time we have been saying that the country is experiencing the worst crisis in its history."

Justicialist Leader Raul Matera said that President Raul Alfonsin's speech "reflected the true situation." Regarding the foreign debt, he added that he believes this is "the first step in solving the problems which the government inherited." The well-known neurosurgeon noted that "the fact that the United States and Latin American countries are cooperating to help us pay the interest is a step forward."

Matera said that the president's rejection of criticism against his administration is due to "his sensitivity for the very harsh criticisms that are made against him, and I agree with him." But the Justicialist leader said that "just as the government has done some good things, it also has made some mistakes, one of which was the congressional debate on the union reorganization law."

Matera also expressed his support for "a historic movement including the large national parties, and which should also include the members of the Multiparty Group."

Christian Democratic Leader Martin Dip said that "the fact that Latin American countries have expressed their solidarity by supporting a position upheld by Argentina is in itself an achievement." He added that "this shows that we will change the nature and the style in which we have been presenting our foreign debt problem."

He also justified the president's annoyance over the criticism against the government during the first 100 days of the administration. He said that "undoubtedly there are domestic sectors that are criticizing the government in order to achieve their own selfish interests at a time when national interests are at stake."

Peronist Party Deputy Adam Pedrini stated that "in his speech the president did not explain to the Argentine people what will be done and how the negotiations will be carried out."

The legislator said that "we have our reservations about the U.S. gesture since after acts of this nature, which are always temporary, the United States always presents padded bills that must be paid."

Moreover, Pedrini reasserted charges regarding "the administration's arrogance" for the attitude it is adopting regarding this issue. He noted: "The administration adopts an arrogant attitude but when it needs to give an image of national unity abroad, it brings up issues that are not corroborated by the facts." Pedrini noted that "Obviously, and in keeping with this image, the president becomes or tries to become the president of national unity while normally he assumes the role of the president of the Radical Civic Union."

He added that the final acceptance of the renegotiation of the foreign debt "must be approved by Congress which is really to safeguard those economic authorities who are in charge of the negotiations so that they may not be burdened in the future with possible punishment." Pedrini said that "I believe that if Congress discusses the issue and approves it, it is because the renegotiation safeguards national interests and not merely those of U.S. banks."

MEXICO'S DE LA MADRID ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

FL022048 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1940 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's President Miguel de la Madrid today arrived at 1900 GMT in Buenos Aires from Brazil on an official 3-day visit. The Mexican chief executive was received by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin. De la Madrid's visit to Argentina is part of a tour of five nations. He has already visited Colombia and Brazil, and has yet to visit Venezuela and Panama.

Asks Mexicans To Aid Argentina

FL032151 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0012 GMT 3 Apr 84

[By correspondent Yazmin Ross]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid expressed here today the Mexicans' solidarity with what he called the great exploit of the Argentine people to restore dignity and freedom. Addressing a group of Mexicans who reside in Argentina, President De la Madrid said: I come to Argentina to continue to strengthen the great friendship that unites us at a time when the Argentines are waging a special and exciting struggle for freedom and democracy.

The Mexican chief executive, in his first day of an official visit to Argentina, asked the Mexicans residing here to join the Argentines in this new phase of their lives which will not only strengthen Argentina, but all countries in Latin America. Today, the president added, the Mexicans wish to give testimony of our solidarity and fraternity with the great Argentine people.

With this ceremony, Miguel de la Madrid concluded his public activities of his first day in Argentina, after traveling from Sao Paulo, Brazil, in his tour of several Latin American countries. Tomorrow morning at 1030 (local time), the Mexican head of state will hold his first round of talks with his Argentine counterpart, Dr Raul Alfonsin, at the Casa Rosada. During that meeting, Alfonsin will present the sash of the Order of Liberator San Martin to the distinguished guest. At 1800 the Mexican president will hold a press conference at the Argentine Council of International Relations, and at 2100 will attend a banquet in his honor hosted by the Argentine president.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS FISHING AGREEMENT WITH CUBA

PY021206 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 29 Mar 84 pp 1, 4

[J. Iglesias Rouco commentary: "Ideologisms"]

[Excerpt] The government of Mr Alfonsin is leading the country along a winding course running close to the edge of an abyss, an international abyss into which Argentina may end up falling. The government may be doing so with an eye on its being a "third movement" or on the ultranationalist isolation from the so-called central powers that such a movement calls for. Many of the current democratic prospects for the country would thus be spoiled, including the human rights policy of Alfonsin's party, which has thus far been its only positive contribution (despite the fact that the extreme left is using it with sectarian objectives).

As we have already seen, just when Argentina is in great need of evidence that should prove to the world that our country is willing to work democratically and seriously, the government has faced the extremely serious foreign debt problem from an almost exclusively demagogic standpoint. In addition, Argentina has set out on its Pan-American, or Latin American march by granting credits to Cuba and Nicaragua and by signing economic agreements with them. As Marxist dictatorships, Cuba and Nicaragua are in the forefront of human rights violations in the continent, in close competition with Stroessner, Pinochet, "Baby Doc" [in English] and the Salvadoran military.

We will analyze one of those agreements, the one with Cuba, because it has ethical and political disadvantages and all kinds of economic drawbacks which are closely linked with our precarious situation in the South Atlantic and which provide sufficient evidence that the agreement has an ideological inspiration.

After his recent trip to Havana, where he was warmly received, Maritime Resources Under Secretary Hector Traverso explained that he signed only an "act of understanding" in which Argentina expresses its willingness to allow the Cuban fleet to catch only anchovy, and not hake, squid, or prawn, in Argentine waters. However, the real scope of the agreement as it affects the following issues has not been clarified:

1. That under the pretext of anchovy fishing, Argentine ports have been opened for Cuba.

2. That the "possible mutual cooperation in the fishing sector," as Traverso put it, will consist of the admission of dozens and perhaps hundreds of Cuban "technicians" in Argentine fishing companies. The presence of these "technicians" will be completely unnecessary from the scientific standpoint, because the INIDEP (National Institute for the Development and Research of the Fishing Industry) has already made a complete evaluation of our fishing resources. Therefore, the presence of the Cubans in Argentina can have only a political objective or, at least, a political result.

3. That Argentine shipowners currently catch only 24,000 tons of anchovy annually, instead of catching 1 million, as they could easily do, simply because anchovy fishing is not profitable due to high production costs and due to the limited use of anchovy for manufacturing flour.

4. That despite this unprofitability, which should hold for both Cubans and Argentines (if the law is respected), the "act" foresees the creation of joint fishing societies. Based on this project, the Buenos Aires government has granted Havana a loan or "credit line" of $20 million.

5. That for more than 3 years, the local fishing sector has been asking the government, with negative results, to grant a $30 million loan to Nigeria, one of the main markets for Argentine fishing products.

6. That the signing of a "fishing" treaty of this kind will finally force Argentina to allow Cuba to catch other species in its territorial waters (perhaps hake, squid, and prawn), when the Cubans and their local partners claim that anchovy fishing is unprofitable.

7. That for the last 14 months, with those species not yet shared with Cuba, Argentine exports have decreased by 16 percent due to the competition of foreign fleets that fish in the so-called British exclusion zone, to world recession, which has been followed by the consequent protectionist measures and reduced demand levels, and to high production costs. This situation has been aggravated by the low exchange rate adopted by Mr Grinspun (current crew salaries are as high as 50 percent of the value of the catch that reaches the docks.

Because of this situation, it is not surprising that Mr Traverso and his entourage had been received in Havana by Mr Castro himself, and that during the conversations and the successive "homages" Mr Castro even called each person by his first name, as if they were old comrades.

OFFICIALS ON NUCLEAR BUDGET, PRESSURES

PY040101 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1840 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Apr (DYN) -- Alberto Constantini, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], today announced that the budget of this organization will be reduced by 0.26 percent. Meanwhile, Justicialist deputies have reported "international pressure" against Argentina's nuclear development, tied to the renegotiation of the foreign debt.

The chairman of CNEA explained that in keeping with the requirements of the finance secretariat, his organization has reduced the budget by "0.26 percent which means that the overall budget of the CNEA is now 1.2 percent of the Gross Domestic Product [GDP], as compared to 1.6 percent of the GDP last year." Constantini explained that the reduction will be especially in the area of "construction" but he ruled out the possibility of "paralyzing any project"; they will merely experience delays of the "original timetables." The official also denied that the work at the Arroyito heavy water plant is on the verge of being paralyzed and indicated that in this case there will be "only a delay of 12 months" which will probably give rise to "an increase in the initial estimated cost of construction."

Later, the chairman of the CNEA termed "totally groundless" the rumors that Argentina was planning to install an "atomic dump" in Catamarca Province to receive nuclear waste from other countries. In this regard, Constantini explained that "the only study on the subject involves Gastre, Chubut Province, and this site would under no circumstances be used to receive waste from abroad."

Constantini made these remarks at the end of a 3-hour meeting which he held with the energy and science and technology committees of the Chamber of Deputies during which he reported on the future development of nuclear energy in Argentina pursuant to the reduction of CNEA's budget. The official voiced his satisfaction over the support and understanding extended to him by the deputies of the major blocs who, according to Constantini, have a broad knowledge of nuclear development.

However, at the end of the meeting, Justicialist Deputy Julio Cesar Araoz, vice chairman of the energy committee, stated that there are international pressures against the nuclear development of the nation, tied to the payment of the foreign debt. The deputy of the first minority indicated that these pressures come from NATO and the international bankers who see Argentina as a dangerous competitor for the sale of nuclear technology to Latin American nations.

Araoz said that one of these pressures has to do with Argentina signing the Tlatelolco Treaty without amending the clauses which deal with nonproliferation safeguards. The Peronist legislator indicated that this is an objective sought by Mexico and guarantees that the subject will be discussed by President Raul Alfonsin and Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado during the latter's stay in Buenos Aires.

For his part, Guillermo Tello Rosas, chairman of the energy committee, admitted to the possibility that this international treaty could be signed by Argentina, if the portion dealing with safeguards is amended, and only to prevent Argentina's isolation in Latin America in connection with nuclear matters.

'POSSIBLE' UK, U.S. ATOMIC WASTE DUMP DENOUNCED

PY031640 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0411 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] San Miguel de Tucuman, 2 Apr (TELAM) -- In an interview carried today by the newspaper LA TARDE of this city, Deputy Humberto Sales (Justicialist Party for Catamarca) denounced the possible installation of an atomic waste disposal site in Antofagasta de la Sierra, one of the highest areas on the Catamarca Plateau. Deputy Sales said that the U.S. and UK Governments wanted to use that area as a deposit for atomic ash waste, pointing out that such ash could rise in a mist of radioactive elements apt to cause cancer, a mist which can take as long as 90 years to disappear from the atmosphere, as in the case of strontium.

Regarding the charge made by Deputy Sales, LA TARDE contacted the director of the Catamarca newspaper LA UNION, Nicolas S. Leiva, who remembered that an Argentine-British expedition went to Antofagasta de la Sierra in November 1981 to draw a geological map of that volcanic region and investigate eruption patterns as a preliminary step for the installation of the atomic waste dump.

Talking about what was published when the expedition ended in January 1982, Leiva said that newspaper reports at the time noted the good rapport between the civilian and military personnel from the two nations. As members of the expedition, Leiva mentioned the then British Ambassador to Argentina Anthony Williams, the then Economic Development Under Secretary Raul Enrique Galazza, British Captain John E. Faunters, and Argentine Lieutenant Colonel Fernando Canoni.

JUSTICIALISTS ON ALFONSIN'S FIRST 100 DAYS

PY302210 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 Mar 84 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) The Justicialist Party issued a belated statement on the Radical administration's first 100 days titled "It Is Better To Do Than To Promise," in which it welcomed President Raul Alfonsin's call for national unity but urged the government to "eradicate haughtiness and immaturity" to make his plea viable.

The Peronists' six-page statement pointed out that "we have not been able to start all together towards 100 years of peace, justice, and freedom, because these 100 days contributed more to confrontations than to the long awaited rendezvous."

The party urged the government to drop "all attempts at continuing" along the former military regime's line. It charged that the late President Juan Domingo Peron's death caused a "hard-to-fill vacuum...which was duly used by the agents of dependency to sow distrust in the legitimate institutions which arose from the popular will, to encourage extremists and to prepare a new assult on power."

With regard to its last electoral defeat, the party acknowledged some mistakes but accused "the very same interests which used the repressive groups as a clumsy tool" during the military regime of having "launched a Machiavellian campaign of false alternatives."

"The greatest problems are still awaiting great solutions," the statement said, mentioning among them "the foreign debt, the recovery of the Malvinas, the Beagle conflict, the industrial recovery, the beleaguered regional economies, chronic unemployment, price indexing, lack of housing, rents, university admission, the removal of judges involved with the (military) process, and the true nationalization of culture."

After extolling late Radical Party leader Ricardo Balbin, whom it ranked -- along with Peron -- among the "national leaders" who worked in favour of national unity, the Justicialist statement expressed the party's statement with the lack of "humbleness and greatness" on the part of the electoral winners, whom they accused of "triumphalism and haughtiness."

INTERIOR MINISTER MEETS WITH PERONIST LEADER

PY310150 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1425 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 30 Mar (NA) — Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli and Justicialist Party [PJ] First Vice President Lorenzo Miguel held a meeting aimed at reestablishing relations between the Radicals and Peronists, a meeting which was the first round of preparatory political dialogue which President Raul Alfonsin will hold by mid-April with representatives of other parties. The meeting was held on Wednesday night at the house of the interior minister.

During the meeting they discussed not only subjects to be discussed between the president of the Republic and the Peronist leadership, but both sectors also expressed concern over the deterioration of relations between the Radical Civic Union [UCR] and the PJ.

At the meeting, which was attended by Justicialist Deputies Diego Ibanez and Torcuato Fino and Political Secretary of the Peronist National Council Carlos Spadone, they tried to find agreements which may help overcome current confrontations, and sought formulas of agreement "on great national issues," official sources stated. In this regard, PJ spokesmen stated that negotiations, included within the framework of the political dialogue the government intends to implement soon, are on a "good track" and that "by next week some agreements could be reached."

'CALM' REPORTED BETWEEN REGIME, ARMED FORCES

PY302200 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 Mar 84 p 11

[Text] (NA) -- Defence Ministry Under-Secretary Horacio Jaunarena yesterday claimed that "absolute calm" reigned in relations between the government and the Armed Forces. He also denied that this was in any way disproved by an incident in Reconquista, Santa Fe, last Friday night when apparently drunken officers publicly shouted out slogans against the government, democracy, and the present General Staff. Air Force Chief Teodoro Waldner will travel to Reconquista today to look into the incident, it was announced last night.

Jaunarena further admitted that Armed Forces promotions were "one month behind schedule" and described the failure of former First Army Corps Commander Carlos Suarez Mason to appear in military courts as "rebellion." The Defense Minister official also scolded journalists for their handling of the case of presidential Aire-de-Camp Lieutenant-Colonel Nestor Greppi, regretting that Greppi's release for "lack of evidence" of human rights violations did not receive the same publicity as his arrest on those charges.

Jaunarena's remarks about smooth military-civilian relations were endorsed by Army Chief of Staff Jorge Arguindegui, who was inspecting the Third Army Corps base in Cordoba yesterday. "Most civilians respect their Armed Forces," the general said, although he also mentioned "aggression" against the military from "certain tiny groups and publications."

Commenting on the promotions delay, Arguindegui said that the General Staff had done no more than present a few proposals to the Defence Ministry and that it was now up to the latter to take action. Arguindegui will be inspecting the Fifth Infantry Brigade in Tucuman today.

ARMY STAFF CHIEF REQUESTS SUAREZ' DISCHARGE

PY281133 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2332 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Mar (TELAM) -- Today the Army chief of staff, Brigadier General Jorge Hugo Arguindegui, reportedly requested of Defense Minister Raul Borras that Major General Carlos Guillermo Suarez Mason, retired, be discharged from the Army and stripped of his rights and rank. This was reported to TELAM by Army sources stating that this measure was prompted by the virtual act of insubordination committed by the former Army chief of staff and former commander of the I Army Corps.

FORMER COMMANDERS 'ACCUSERS, NOT DEFENDANTS'

PY300120 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Mar 84 p 11

[Text] Buenos Aires, (NA) -- The Defence counsels of the three commanders-in-chief who led Argentina through the Malvinas war have pleaded that their clients should be regarded as "accusers rather than defendants" on the basis of new interpretations of the war, Bahia Blanca daily LA NUEVA PROVINCIA reported yesterday.

According to information leaks, the counsels claimed General Leopoldo Galtieri, Admiral Jorge Anaya, and Brigadier Basilio Lami Dozo, currently under preventive arrest for their alleged mishandling of the war, in fact managed to win "a moral, real, and lasting victory over the United Kingdom's intentions in the South Atlantic" despite the military defeat. The Argentine position with regard to "the English refusal to deal with the basic issue (sovereignty over the islands) and the direct threat of British naval movements towards the South Atlantic...was made clear. The recovery was decided upon."

The NUEVA PROVINCIA report said the defenders pleaded that owing to their double roles of commanders-in-chief and members of the ruling military junta, Galtieri, Anaya, and Lami Dozo handled the "political-diplomatic and military-strategic aspects" of the 73-day war, but could not be expected to closely follow the "overall or tactical military aspects." The commanders "often limited themselves to confirming the decisions of the chiefs-of-staff and the members of the South Atlantic Theatre of Operations (TOAS)." The leaked writ had especially harsh words for General Mario Benjamin Menendez, governor of the islands during the war, of whom the commanders expected "a brave defence to the utmost consequences," rather than an "untimely" surrender.

FORMER ARMED FORCES HEADS TO BE TRIED FOR COUP

PY031435 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The first Federal Appellate Court ruled last night that the former Armed Forces commanders, General Jorge Videla, Admiral Emilio Massera, and General Orlando Agosti, should stand trial on charges of rebellion against the constitutional government headed by Maria Estela Martinez de Peron. The court ruling states that the deeds of 24 March 1976, debatable by the defense, appear as a prima facie case of rebellion as described in Article 226 of the penal code. The court believes that there is sufficient reason to suspect that the then Armed Forces commanders are responsible for the crime in question, and that, therefore, they should stand trial. This means that Gen Videla, Adm Massera, and Gen Agosti should be tried.

OFFICIAL SAYS NEWS MEDIA MUST REPORT ALL VIEWS

PY271953 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Public Information Secretary Emilio Gibaja stated that in a democratic government such as Argentina's, the news media must disseminate the views of all sectors, noting that the government does not want all state news media to report the same information. He added that the Radical Civic Union [UCR] has always fought against this, and it will continue to do so now that it is in power.

Commenting on the meeting held yesterday with leaders of the UCR's Intermediate Generation faction, Gibaja said that although some people could get upset about hearing reports on other political groups, that is how things must be. Gibaja said that the Intermediate Generation leaders conveyed some complaints to him which the public information secretariat does not approve. Gibaja said that he talked with the leaders for a while and they had made some suggestions to him, adding that he had nothing to do with the statements they made after the meeting.

During an interview with a Buenos Aires radio station, he said that journalist Mario Monteverde could be appointed president of the news agency TELAM. However, Gibaja said that no final decision has yet been made. Gibaja also expressed his belief that it is unlikely that TELAM will be able to absorb a part of the staff of the news agency SAPORITI, which was closed recently.

Gibaja said that he met with heads of news departments yesterday. He made it clear that the government never establishes directives. We meet periodically, he said, because we are closely linked. He indicated that the meetings are designed to discuss the situation of the various news departments, whether they have committed errors and, if so, how to resolve them. We also discuss the complaints we receive to determine whether they must be heeded or not.

1983 COMMERCIAL BALANCE LEAVES SURPLUS

PY031556 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2159 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (TELAM) -- The National Statistics and Census Institute today officially reported that in 1983 the Argentine commercial balance yielded a surplus of $3,331,000,000, which represents a 45.5-percent increase in comparison to that of 1982. During 1983, exports totaled $7,828,000,000, which represents a 2.7-percent increase [in comparison to last year] while imports totaled $4,497,000,000 which represents a 15.7-percent decrease.

GOVERNMENT TO RENEGOTIATE OIL CONTRACTS

PY281807 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1555 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Mar (DYN) -- Energy Secretary Conrado Storani today announced that the government will cancel the renegotiations of oil contracts made during the military regime between Government Oil Deposits (YPF) and 21 private oil firms. Storani said that "the political decision has already been made" and that the corresponding decree "is being drawn up."

Storani said that "we will totally renegotiate the oil exploitation contracts" and he denied that the measure could prompt "any arbitrary actions." He said that "on the contrary, the measure seeks to preserve sovereignty and self-sufficiency."

The secretary of state today informed the deputies who make up the chamber's Energy and Fuels Commission of the present status of the oil contracts. He said tht the measure also seeks to "stop immoral actions." Deputy Guillermo Tello Rosas, head of the chamber's commission, said he was "very satisfied" about Storani's report. Similarly, Peronist Deputy Julio Cesar Araoz expressed his approval of the renegotiation method reported by Storani. Storani held a 2-hour meeting with the members of the energy commission, located at 115 Lima Street.

OAS HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICIAL VISITS, MEETS ALFONSIN

PY300211 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Edmundo Vargas Carreno, secretary of the OAS Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Vargas Carreno noted that the reason for his trip to Argentina was to bring back documents and testimony which were gathered by a commission that paid a visit to the country in 1979 and which could not be included in a report put together at a later date. Vargas Carreno made statements to the press after he met with President Alfonsin today. Vargas Carreno arrived in Argentina at the invitation of the Argentine Government and the commission on missing persons.

SILES SAYS ELECTION IN NOVEMBER UNLIKELY

PY031325 Paris AFP in Spanish 1410 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] La Paz, 2 Apr (AFP) -- President Hernan Siles Zuazo today informed Jaime Paz Zamora, Congress president and vice president of the Republic, that he thought it quite unlikely that the municipal elections scheduled for November will be held at that time.

In a note addressed to Paz Zamora, President Siles Zuazo based his opinion on the facts that the legislative branch is delaying the drawing up of jurisdictional boundaries for each municipality, that it has still not approved the new municipal law (the municipal law currently in force is almost 4 decades old and, therefore, obsolete), and on the economic difficulties of the country.

The opposition has been pressing for these elections in order to show that Siles' regime no longer has the support of the majority of the Bolivian population, because of the deterioration it has suffered during 1 and 1/2 years in power.

The executive branch based its proposal to postpone the municipal elections on the facts that the legislative branch has recessed until August, and that it has not approved the law which would allow them to be held on schedule.

OPPOSITION PARTY DEMANDS SILES' RESIGNATION

PY031535 Paris AFP in Spanish 2343 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] La Paz, 2 Apr (AFP) -- The Historic Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR-H), headed by former Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro, requested today President Hernan Siles Zuazo's resignation.

In a statement issued by its political board, the MNR-H appeals to the president's patriotism and high sense of republican ethics, adding that by resigning he will prevent the outbreak of a senseless fratricidal war in Bolivia.

The statement notes that, to the misfortune of the fatherland, the comedy has become a tragedy and that stupidity and improvisation has undermined institutional guidelines, and that chaos now prevails.

It adds that the MNR-H will mobilize its active members to achieve its objectives, noting that Bolivia is submerged in administrative corruption, drug trafficking, misery, and incompetence.

Both the MNR-H and the conservative Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN) have been calling for immediate presidential elections which should normally be held in 1986.

MINISTER SCORES ARGENTINE DEFERMENT OF PAYMENTS

PY040152 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Labor and Labor Development Minister Horst Grebe made a few statements regarding the money which Argentina owes to Bolivia for gas purchases.

He said that the money to pay this debt cannot be attached. Minister Grebe explained that it is a commercial debt which amounted to $298 million on 31 January, and the funds earmarked to pay it cannot be impounded.

He added that Argentina's decision to defer payment cannot be justified. We can understand its difficulties, Minister Grebe said, which are the result of the dictatorship which preceded President Alfonsin. However, Argentina has more financial resources than Bolivia. The labor minister went on to say that it is not right for a nation which just reinstated democracy to restrict the economic and political possibilities of another democratic country in order to pay its own foreign debt.

The minister also proposed that the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits be allowed to keep the foreign currency received for gas sold to Argentina, to enable it to pay off its obligations to the national treasury.

PUBLIC SERVANTS STRIKE FOR SALARY INCREASE

PY030233 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The Bolivian public servants will start a 72-hour strike as of 0000 Tuesday.

In La Paz the public servants are demanding the payment of the 57 percent salary increase for the month of January and the recent increases in their fringe benefits while in the interior they are demanding that the government pay them the salary increase corresponding to December 1983.

This information was disclosed by Mario Viveros, secretary general of the confederation of state employees, who stated that the measure has been adopted in view of the fact that Siles Zuazo's government has failed to comply with the terms of specific agreements which had been reached.

[La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish at 0000 GMT 3 April 1984 from very poor reception also reports that the teachers of La Paz city have decided to start a 72-hour strike as of 0000 Tuesday]

Strike Lifted

PY031907 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The 72-hour strike which was declared by the Public Servants Confederation has been suspended. The strike which began at 0000 today ended even before noon, because it was called off as soon as the leaders of the public servants concluded their negotiations with the government.

Public Relations Secretary Ricardo Salazar explained how the conflict was solved: [Begin Salazar recording] The confederation decided to suspend the 72-hour strike, because the problem was solved with the government's decision to begin paying back salaries and the 57-percent annual bonus, as well as other wages owed. [words indistinct] so the public servants should pick up their slips and return to work at once. [end recording]

As you have heard, public servants should return to work immediately, although it is very unlikely that they will, because they will spend this afternoon standing in long lines to collect their salaries.

INDUSTRY COMPLAINS OVER STRIKES, LACK OF CURRENCY

PY021900 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The National Chamber of Industries has reported that a total of 29 companies have closed down as a result of the constant stoppages and strikes, and mainly because of the lack of foreign currency for the purchase of raw materials, supplies, and spare parts. The institution adds that this has caused the manufacturing sector to face ever-increasing deterioration. It adds that if there is a shortage of currency, which is sometimes completely lacking, at the same time that we are faced with constant requests, demands, and proposals which lead to stoppages and strikes, which do not respect either authority or law, the situation of the national industry must certainly give cause for concern, to say the least.

TERRORISTS BOMB SANTA CRUZ RADIO STATION

PY030346 Paris AFP in Spanish 2213 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] La Paz, 2 Apr (AFP)-- It has been reported in this capital that in Santa Cruz de la Sierra (1,000 km east of here) Radio Willy Bendek suffered a terrorist attack today which damaged its installations, but that there were no casualties. A bomb exploded inside the building at 0300 (0700) GMT. During the past few months the radio has been noted for launching strong attacks against the government, thus interpreting the conservative interests of that district.

The Departmental Labor Central (COD) of Santa Cruz has repudiated the terrorist attack and has made it clear that the workers are enemies of that type of action, which is usually used by the country's rightist sector.

Interior Ministry authorities have announced that the investigation of the incident will continue until the culprits are found.

PEASANTS SAY PERUVIANS VIOLATED NATIONAL BORDER

PY040325 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 30 Mar 84 p 9

[Excerpt] The Apolo Civic Committee reported yesterday, in a letter addressed to the authorities, that Peruvian groups have violated the Bolivian border and settled down in the province of Caupolican, La Paz Department.

The report signed by Casto Valencia, Augusto Machicado, and Carmelo Flores states that a group of Peruvian peasants recently formed a community called San Fermin, from which the Bolivian peasants were expelled and "forbidden to come near the region."

The area is located 80 km north of Apolo and is known by the name Azariama, according to a report presented at a meeting of the Apolo Civic Committee by agrarian leader Augusto Pari Alvarez on 25 March 1984.

FIGUEIREDO LAUDS L.A. JOINT EFFORT TO FACE CRISIS

PY040230 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Mar 84 p 8

["Text" of speech by President Joao Figueiredo during a banquet at Itamaraty Palace honoring Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid on 29 March]

[Excerpts] Mr President:

We are deeply honored by the visit Your Excellency and distinguished retinue are paying us. The meeting of Mexican and Brazilian citizens is always an occasion for profitable exchange and the strengthening of fraternal relations. I vividly recall the warm welcome I received on my visit to Cancun last April.

The difficult times the world is enduring require some meditation to find the formulas that will prevent confrontations that have such a negative impact on international relations as a whole.

All the talk about the balance of forces and the efforts made to attain it have not spared the world painful conflicts that threaten whole regions and break the harmony prevailing among nations. Our concern grows even more so when we analyze the problems that affect our region. Latin America has never confronted such serious situations as the ones affecting Central America.

Thanks to Mexico's initiative, along with Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela, the Contadora Group's negotiations were set in motion. In view of the human and social scope of the regional antagonisms, Contadora opens the path for balanced and stable solutions based on the continent's best diplomatic traditions. Just a year after it was made official, the Contadora proposal, that has already yielded concrete initiatives, represents the only political and moral alternative to solve the Central American problem. The proposal has had visible achievements, such as preventing an open military conflict in the region, and it has also unleashed a multilateral negotiating process which has had an ample positive impact. The Contadora Group's spirit is also reflected in the creation, within the Latin American Economic System, of the Committee for the Support of Central American Economic Development, a happy Mexican initiative that appears to be the indispensable economic complement to the regional diplomatic and political action.

The support and encouragement Brazil has granted the Contadora Group is not something new. In December 1982, before the initiative was consolidated, the Brazilian Government voiced its belief that the mediation among the countries of the region could benefit from the diplomatic experience and capability of the nearest Latin American states that were present in the region, such as Mexico.

I can see that we were right when we believed in the Latin American desire to negotiate and in its pacifist spirit. This belief prompts us to give the OAS greater support and hope that the hemispheric forum, due to the determination of its members, will see its actions strengthen and its efforts appreciated through progress and understanding. Our countries cannot neglect the experience gained through so many years of inter-American coexistence. The OAS is a valuable tool that must be preserved and used to solve continental problems.

I hereby want to mention the remarkable task that Your Excellency, at the head of the Mexican Government, is carrying out to recover your country's economy. Despite the sacrifices it entails, we Brazilians have made a similar effort. However, this effort -- the price of which is well known by our peoples -- will only yield the desired results if the developed countries show a more constructive attitude. So far we have seen very little in this regard; therefore, we must strengthen our efforts to establish an international economic order that will be more just, balanced, and in keeping with the legitimate and inalienable aspirations of developing countries.

Although with a different intensity, the current economic crisis affects all Latin American countries. The countries of the continent, that are linked through various ties, adopt a positive attitude in view of the common problems they are confronting. The Latin American Economic Conference held in Quito in January was an event of great significance. By adopting measures for coordinated action, the countries represented at the Quito conference revealed their awareness that, in view of the challenges which the world economy imposes on us, only cooperation and the rationalization of efforts will allow the current crisis to be tackled effectively. Today I reiterate Brazil's determination to support the initiative that may stem from the Quito conference either on the relationship with the developed world or on the impetus to intraregional cooperation and commerce.

MEXICO WANTS TO EXCLUDE OIL FROM TRADE BALANCE

PY031320 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 30 Mar 84 p 18

[Text] Brasilia -- Mexican Industry and Commerce Minister Hector Fernandez Cervantes yesterday disclosed that Mexico wants to modify the way in which the trade balance with Brazil is calculated by excluding the oil bill from trade negotiations. In order to expedite bilateral trade in manufactured and farming products, Mexico proposes tariff benefits, broader import licences, and lower taxes.

This subject was discussed yesterday by Minister Fernandez Cervantes and Finance Minister Ernane Galveas, and was the subject of a lengthy meeting held by representatives of the two countries in Itamaraty who are negotiating the bases for the economic cooperation agreement, signed in Cancun, that is being updated. The Mexican minister stated his country's economy continues to be based on oil exports and that one of President Miguel de la Madrid's objectives is to diversify the foreign currency sources. Minister Cervantes explained that "this year Mexico is going to pay $11.5 billion of its foreign debt and more than $4.5 billion in amortizations, which, more or less, is covered by the country's income on oil sales."

Although Brazil's main import from Mexico is oil (approximutely $600 million), which leaves a very favorable trade balance for Mexico, Minister Cervantes believes that the Brazilian Government will react positively to the proposal. He also stated that in 1984 Mexico hopes to partially recover its import capability, estimating that total imports will amount to $13.5 billion (in 1983 it amounted to $8 billion), adding that preferential treatment will be granted to Brazilian products. President Joao Figueiredo has termed the work carried out by President Miguel de la Madrid to obtain a recovery of the Mexican economy as "remarkable" and also referred to the efforts made by his own government to implement stabilizing policies and austerity measures, and to reorganize domestic institutions to overcome the current crisis.

REACTIONS POSITIVE TO MINISTERIAL CHANGES

Christian Democrat Valdes

PY032325 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Gabriel Valdes, president of the Christian Democratic Party and the Democratic Alliance, asserted that the cabinet changes apparently mean the end of the Chicago boys who are responsible for the worse crisis Chile has endured in the past years. However, he added that the problems will only be solved by the return to democracy. Gabriel Valdes today held a press conference at the request of the media that wanted to hear his opinion on the new economic team. The Christian Democratic leader stated that the change is important and added:

[Begin Valdes recording] Because this change apparently puts an end to the era of the Chicago boys, of a group of ideologistic, [word indistinct] and dogmatic economists that have undoubtedly caused very serious damage to the economy and especially to the country. [end recording]

Valdes then stated that Chile should review the damages caused by the Chicago boys.

[Begin Valdes recording] I see no political opening since we have returned to a state of emergency and to restrictions, although not completely, such as the intervention of television [word indistinct]. Therefore, although we will have a new economic policy, which will probably be a broader policy, I see no (?measures) being taken for a political opening. [end recording]

Opposition Parties, Others

PY031538 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Through a communique signed by its president, Angel Faivovich, and its secretary general, the Radical Democratic Party states its satisfaction at the designation of Luis Escobar Cerda as finance minister. The communique notes that Cerda is a highly qualified person.

A communique released by the National Unity Movement [MUN] states that the designation of Modesto Collado will call for a revision of the role played by the Economy Ministry and that this is encouraging. This communique is signed by MUN Secretary General Andres Allamand.

Domingo Duran, president of the Confederation of Agricultural Producers, said:

[Begin Duran recording] I want to voice my deepest and most sincere joy, on behalf of the farmers that I represent, on behalf of all Chilean businessmen, on behalf of all workers. [end recording]

Jorge Fontaine, president of the Confederation of Production and Commerce, also expressed his satisfaction at the new designations, while union leaders expect that the new economic officials will overcome the unemployment problem. Adolfo Quinteros, president of the Superior Council for Land Transportation, stated that he had expected these changes to take place over a year ago. Quinteros added that these changes are regarded as positive. He said that Ministers Collado and Escobar are faced with a mighty task.

Humberto Prieto, manager of the National Chamber of Commerce said that the designation of the two ministers was a step forward in the reactivation [of the economy]. He said that both Collado and Escobar are well-known professionals who have made a career in the field of production management, and that the goals of curbing unemployment are praiseworthy.

NEW ECONOMY MINISTER ON GOALS OF ADMINISTRATION

PY032250 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Economy Minister Modesto Collado, who is now in charge of conducting Chilean economic policy, this morning held a meeting with Economy Ministry authorities. During the meeting Collado was accompanied by his predecessor Andres Passicot, who is leaving his post at President Augusto Pinochet's request. During a lengthy meeting with the director of the National Statistics Institute, the (?AIDINCO) director, the head of the national treasury, [word indistinct] Under Secretary Rodolfo Verdugo, and other high-ranking authorities of the Economy Ministry, Modesto Collado termed the task of this ministry as a leadership [generalato] job and stated that everyone should give him a hand; that is, the workers, the government, and the businessmen. The minister pointed out that we will not be able to surface from this crisis without joint action.

Collado also stated that the main objectives of his administration will be to curb unemployment to a 4-percent rate during the next 3 years, to respect the foreign commitments undertaken by the country, to institute a study regarding the system of debts contracted in monetary units, and implement a clear anti-inflationary policy.

Moreover, the minister stated that the president of the Republic had given him precise instructions on the need to analyze the unemployment issue, which is one of our main concerns now. However, he pointed out that the solutions and initiatives that will be adopted tackle this problem will be realistic, sensible, and coherent. Minister Collado also pointed out that no rash decisions will be made and we will work in keeping within our resources. What we want is to carry out a joint action between the government, the businessmen, and the workers, since this is the only way to overcome the current difficulties.

He also reiterated that the bases of the market economy will remain unaltered and that the important task started former Minister Caceres and Passicot will be continued.

FRENCH VICE CONSUL DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA

PY031530 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The Chilean Government has declared French Vice Consul Yvonne Legrand as persona non grata. Legrand will therefore have to leave the country as soon as possible. A similar request had been made to the French Embassy before, because of the cooperation granted by Legrand to terrorist groups, especially to the outlawed Movement of the Revolutionary Left.

COMMUNIST LEADER: PARTY HELPING SUBVERSION

PY022357 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The Communist Party is aiding armed struggle in Chile, admitted Hugo Facio, a Chilean leader who is exiled in Europe. Facio, who served as president of the Central Bank under the former government, made statements to a Spanish newspaper admitting that the Communist Party is helping subversion in Chile [words indistinct] in the so-called peaceful protest held in Chile on 27 March.

During the interview, Facio said that we communists are not ruling out an armed struggle and what is called [words indistinct] rebellion and other methods of struggle. Facio said that within this subversive plan an armed struggle is contemplated.

Regarding the ill-named peaceful protest of 27 March, the exiled communist leader stated that there is a true motivation bringing together the AD [Democratic Alliance] with the Popular Democratic Movement [MDP], an umbrella under which come the communists and the socialists. This is unrealistic and it leads to a head-on struggle seeking to replace a legally established regime. Facio admitted that the AD has a naive attitude, but that progress was being made in achieving unity and mass mobilization.

During the interview Facio said that a general stoppage is planned for next May.

Facio concluded by emphasizing the good and cordial relations between the Chilean Communist Party and the Soviet Union, whose [words indistinct] is still a model for us to follow.

FRONT PROPOSES COMMANDOS TO FIGHT TERRORISM

PY032318 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Autonomous Organizations' Front, headed by Manuel Contreras Loyola, proposed the creation of commandos for patriotic actions with the goal of rejecting organized terrorist attacks.

In a communique issued by the organization, it states that it will energetically protest to government authorities on the escalation of terrorist activities that has relentlessly been unleashed in our country. The communique adds that in view of the recent blackout that affected a vast region of the country, the front summons the entire citizenry to organize in towns, unions, universities, mothers' centers, and secondary schools to reject, in an organized manner, any attempt to carry out terrorist attacks.

The Autonomous Organizations' Front also says that it will request that the government and Armed Forces expel from the country all those who disturb peace, public order, or violate national security. They will also request that the antiterrorist law be urgently approved since the Front deems it necessary to safeguard the peace of all the people. The communique ends by stating that the Front will request the government to draw up an austere economic policy to finally solve the socioeconomic problems the Chilean workers are enduring.

When Manuel Contreras Loyola was asked his opinion of the call for a national understanding made by Santiago Archbishop Msgr Juan Francisco Fresno, he stated:

[Begin Contreras recording] Let's hope God will hear him because the church is also greatly responsible for sheltering terrorism in our fatherland. I support him, but not the clergymen who are responsible for turning this country into a paradise for terrorists and guerrillas. [end recording]

He was also asked about his organization's opinion on the reconciliation draft drawn up by the National Workers Command.

[Begin Contreras recording] It is an interesting proposal. There are some personalities who never did anything for peace in our country or for our government. They promised the workers the moon and almost drove them to a Moscow-type slavery and these are the personalities with whom I do not agree. However, the proposal is interesting and there are a lot of personalities who really care about the unity and coexistence in our country. [end recording]

Manuel Contreras ended by stating that to overcome the current crisis in the country it is necessary to do away with all the Chicago boys because they are a cancer similar to or worse than communism.

CNT PROPOSES NATIONAL RECONCILIATION COMMISSION

PY312300 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The National Workers Command [CNT] today made public a plan it prepared proposing the formation of a Patriotic Commission of National Reconciliation. This plan was submitted yesterday afternoon to Santiago Archbishop Msg Juan Francisco Fresno as the response of workers to the call for reconciliation the monsignor made last week. In its most important point, the plan calls for creating a commission composed of representatives of all sectors which favor a national understanding, including the Armed Forces. CNT president Rodolfo Seguel made this statement while delivering the plan to Msgr Fresno:

[Begin Seguel recording] To contribute to the great task of bringing rapprochement to Chile, we believe that we must call on the nation's best moral reserve, creating a patriotic commission of national reconciliation composed of personalities of the political, judicial, intellectual, scientific, academic, and religious circles, including the Armed Forces. This commission should then be entrusted to gather as soon as possible proposals for democratization from the different sectors, and then translate them into one or more formulas that can be presented to the people who will then be able to sovereignly make a choice through mechanisms guaranteed by the same commission.

We are convinced that the acceptance of a proposal such as the one just announced will be the best evidence of the real and sincere wish to seek ways of pacification and reconciliation among Chileans. [end recording]

NAVY ACQUIRES DESTROYER FROM GREAT BRITAIN

PY281415 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Chilean Navy has acquired a missile-equipped destroyer from Great Britain. The modern destroyer will replace the Cochrane destroyer which has been discharged. The new destroyer will arrive in the country in (?September) to be incorporated into the Chilean war fleet. This information was disclosed by the First Navy Zone commander, Vice Admiral [name indistinct].

FRANCE OFFERS TO REMOVE MINES IN NICARAGUA PORTS

PA040408 Paris AFP in Spanish 2319 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Bogota, 3 Apr (AFP) -- It was learned here today that France has proposed its services and those of other European countries for the removal of mines from the ports of Nicaragua, which is virtually under a naval blockade.

The proposal was made by French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, in a letter approved by President Francois Mitterrand, to Colombian President Belisario Betancur, which was published today in Bogota.

President Betancur and his Mexican counterpart, Miguel de la Madrid, drafted a reply to the letter during the latter's visit to Colombia.

In the reply letter to Mitterrand, the Latin American presidents limited themselves to recalling the terms of their joint declaration, reflecting their concern over the increased tension in Central America and the implied menacing confrontation in the region between the big powers.

"We highly appreciate the interest expressed by Your Excellency for the problems of the region, and your hopes for the success of the Contadora Group efforts in which we are currently engaged together with the presidents of Panama and Venezuela," the reply letter stated.

The presidents of Colombia and Mexico recalled that the Contadora Group foreign ministers will hold their next meeting on 30 April.

In the Spanish version of his letter, published by the Presidency of the Republic, Cheysson denounced the blockade of the Nicaraguan ports as "a new phase in the escalation of the clandestine military operations with foreign support against Nicaragua," and as "a direct attack against the efforts being made by the Contadora Group."

Saying that France, a distant nation, does not wish to intervene directly in Central America, Cheysson asked President Betancur if "he would be willing, alone or with the chiefs of other friendly nations, to solemnly and publicly denounce obstacles to the freedom of circulation and the attack against common law such as the blockade of a nation that is not in a state of extreme belligerence."

Cheysson continued by saying that "it is not a matter of accusing any country, since certainly no country would claim responsibility for such acts," but rather an appeal to the international community, "which could recommend rapid measures and the application of specific actions intended to reestablish and maintain free access to all Nicaraguan ports."

The French minister said that "France cannot remain silent to the petitions of the Nicaraguan Government" and that it would be willing "with one or several friendly European powers to contribute to the removal of mines from those waters."

COLUMNIST ATTACKS U.S. AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT

PY031859 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 3 Apr 84 p 11

[Commentary by Alberto Vargas Pena: "Two Cases for Analysis"]

[Text] The closing of ABC COLOR for an indefinite period is not the subject of this analysis. But two cases which are related to it call for comment, because they give an idea of the prevailing confusion about the concept of democracy, as well as of the errors to which political prejudices can lead.

The first case has to do with the communique made public by the U.S. ambassador regarding a question that falls under the exclusive jurisdiction of Paraguayan sovereignty.

The second case refers to the request made by Domingo Laino to the Argentine interior minister "not to help the Government of Paraguay."

In the first case, it is unthinkable that an ambassador, who is no more than a link of communication between sovereign governments, should assume for himself prerogatives pertaining only to the Paraguayan citizenry. As an ambassador, Mr Davis did not have the right to make the statement he made. The Republic of Paraguay is nobody's satellite and, therefore, the ambassador overstepped his prerogatives. He is not the proconsul of any imperial power.

The question that prompted the ambassador's statement is irrelevant in this case. Should the ambassador feel uncomfortable for any reason, he has the right to pack and leave; but what he cannot and must not do is to meddle in the country's internal affairs, because that is not only a departure from diplomatic procedures but an incursion beyond the boundaries of his mission.

The second case is a relapse into an old practice that we thought had been discarded: to appeal, with sectarian political objectives, to foreign governments to adopt measures that may affect the situation of the Republic.

I personally believe the Argentine Republic cannot at this time help this country, because its problems are a great deal more serious than ours. I also believe that if Argentina could give that help, it would give it to the Paraguayan people in a case of need, not necessarily to the government. Anyway, even a request that such theoretical help be withheld represents a blow below the belt to the Paraguayan people.

In wartime it is outright treason to go to a foreign government behind the back of the national government to try to hurt the latter. The Constitution says so and provides for quite severe punishment in that case. One does not need to wonder for a long time whether going to a foreign government in peacetime to try to hurt, albeit in theory, the Paraguayan people should also be branded as treason.

Especially regarding the second case, I believe we can paraphrase what Madame Roland once said about freedom: Democracy, how many crimes are committed in your name.

UN SECRETARY GENERAL ARRIVES FOR ECLA MEETING

PY040111 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0012 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Lima, 3 Apr (EFE) -- UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived today in Lima to participate in the meeting of the UN's ECLA, which begins its plenary session tomorrow. The high-ranking international official was met with honors corresponding to a chief of state at Air Group 8 in Lima by Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde, the government in full, the diplomatic corps and relatives of Perez de Cuellar and his wife, Marcela Temple de Perez de Cuellar.

The UN Secretary General will remain in Peru until next Sunday. He will give the opening speech at the plenary session of the 20th period of ECLA sessions. ECLA experts have been meeting here for the past week.

The secretary general and his wife arrived in Lima at 1235 [1735 GMT] on board a Mystere plane flying the Panamanian colors. Perez de Cuellar arrived from Panama, where he had been on an official visit during the past few days.

WORKERS OCCUPY SPANISH CHANCERY IN LIMA

PY032159 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2127 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Lima, 3 Apr (EFE) -- Today 10 textile workers of the Paraiso Textile factory peacefully entered the Chancery of the Spanish Embassy in Lima seeking support in their demand for better wages. The workers have requested the "good offices" of the Spanish Embassy in dealing with the Peruvian Labor Ministry and with the management of their enterprise to seek a solution to their demands. The workers began their self-imposed shut-in on the premises of the embassy, which is located in downtown Lima, at noon (1800 peninsular time).

Diplomatic sources have told EFE that talks are being held with the workers and that they are being asked to peacefully leave the Spanish Embassy.

Leave Chancery

PY040020 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2345 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Lima, 3 Apr (EFE) -- After having occupied the Chancery of the Spanish Embassy in Lima for approximately 6 hours, the 11 workers of the Paraiso Textile Factory today peacefully left the Spanish premises, which they had entered seeking support for their demands. The workers gave in after they talked with Spanish Ambassador Pedro Bermejo Marin again, who gave his word to the workers that he would mediate in the conflict between the workers and their company and the Peruvian Labor Minisry "as soon as the occupation is over."

The peaceful occupation of the Spanish Embassy, located in downtown Lima, occurred at noon and the workers left at approximately 1740, local time.

BELAUNDE ON ECONOMIC POLICY, JAIL RIOT

PY021453 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0430 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] President Belaunde Terry said today that the country now has a fiscal policy that imposes difficulties, but alternatives are being sought to alleviate the difficulties of such a policy. For this reason, important changes have been introduced in the cabinet, particularly in the Economy Ministry although not in the financial policy the government is implementing in order to instill optimism in the country, particularly in the mining field.

During the talk with journalists, the chief of state said that the El Sexto jail riot on 27 March proves the existence of an understanding among the underworld, drug traffickers, and fratricidal terrorism, a macabre trio all of Peru knows about. He added that despite the anguish the events caused to the citizenry, they serve to show what those social scourges together can do against the entire society.

President Belaunde again referred to economic policy, saying that our country has a well-defined, orderly and austere policy, keeping cordial but firm relations with international organizations with which the 1984 working plan is being drafted.

DOCTORS CALL NATIONWIDE INDEFINITE STRIKE

PY031855 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1451 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Lima, 3 Apr (EFE) -- Despite a wage increase decreed yesterday by the government, the 17,000 members of the Peruvian Medical Federation today called a nationwide indefinite strike. The doctors demand that government-owned and social security hospitals be better equipped and that agreements which were signed with the government in 1981 and 1983 be implemented.

CHILE ASKED TO INVESTIGATE SINGER'S DEATH

PY032029 Paris AFP in Spanish 0425 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Lima, 2 Apr (AFP) -- The Foreign Ministry of Peru tonight instructed its consulate in Santiago to request Chilean authorities to thoroughly investigate the killing of singer Percy Arana last Saturday by shots fired by Carabineros.

The Foreign Ministry also gave instructions to provide facilities for repatriating the body of the unfortunate artist. In a four-point note to the press, the Foreign Ministry made public the transcription of a verbal report by an officer of the fourth Santiago police district on the circumstances in which the singer was killed.

BRIEFS

CULTURAL ACCORD WITH JAPAN -- A cultural agreement between Japan and Peru was signed at the Peruvian Foreign Ministry this morning. This important document which will help strengthen bilateral relations was signed by Foreign Minister Fernando Schwalb and Teruo Kosugi, Japanese ambassador in Peru. The agreement is to stimulate exchange of information, training and educational methods, and grants scholarships to students of both countries. [Summary] [Lima Television Service in Spanish 0430 GMT 16 Mar 84 PY]

COLORADO PARTY DEPLORES BLANCO PARTY WALKOUT

PY030351 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] In a communique entitled "A Path for Our Country," the Colorado Party tonight pointed out that now that the country is confronting a number of difficulties, all sectors must clearly state their opinions on the way to attain a peaceful solution to the situation and to restore democracy. The party reiterated that this task will imply the search for agreement and understanding, so that sociopolitical sectors may be strong enought to achieve the results that they wish. With this idea in mind, the communique states, the national executive committee of the Colorado party declares:

1. That in the declarations issued on 8 October, 12 January, and 27 November, political parties voiced their support for a constructive spirit of dialogue as a way to restore democracy, inspired by our past, which is full of fruitful political solutions to confrontations. Therefore, we deplore the fact that such an important sector as the National Party should announce its decision to break off the dialogue with the other parties and with the Armed Forces.

2. That this attitude of the National Party is the exclusive responsibility of that party, because it was the National Party that decided, unilaterally and without consultation with the other parties, to change the existing timetable and amend major principles of the 1967 Constitution, which all of us must defend. Therefore, we categorically reject the attempt to blame the Colorado Party for actions that are the exclusive responsibility of National Party leaders, who formulated proposals to the Armed Forces and even tried to put them forward to President Gregorio Alvarez.

3. That this situation does not change the Colorado Party attitude of permanently searching for a solution for the country. Our party will not play the game of slander, because affronts can neither serve to support opinions nor meet the expectations of the people, who demand firmness, good sense, and a nationalistic spirit.

4. That parties cannot give up their joint search for solutions because such an attitude would pave the way for the Armed Forces to impose ideas that the country would not accept. The commitment to hold elections on 25 November is unquestionable and unpostponable and, therefore, we must make every effort to attain that objective, doing away with attitudes that lead nowhere.

5. The Colorado Party now calls for a broad national dialogue including all sectors and all leaders, with no exclusions whatsoever. There is an increasing need for an accord and, therefore, the Armed Forces must immediately lift all proscriptions. This measure will allow us to attain the objective of holding elections on 25 November, which is an objective that the country can by no means relinquish.

As the declaration issued by political parties on 12 January put it, free elections will provide the only peaceful solution leading to democracy. We warn the country that any other attempt or delay will promote violence, and it is the duty of the entire community to prevent violence, the communique concludes.

DE LA MADRID'S L.A. TOUR VIEWED POSITIVELY

FL030251 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2253 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- The agreements reached during Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid's tour of South America demonstrate that Latin America has ceased to be an observer of world events and now plays a role in them, Noel Jotrik Janoviski, a university researcher, has noted.

These actions in no way represent a policy of confrontation against the United States, they are the consolidation of mulilateral and bilateral policies in economic affairs, such as the barter agreement reached with Colombia and the strengthening of the Contadora Group's peacemaking efforts, he stated.

These agreements are aimed at seeking a linking of projects with concrete actions between Mexico and countries involved in important political processes such as that in Argentina, and in huge foreign debts such as that of Brazil, he said.

The presidential tour, he added, constitutes a concrete perspective of a particular type for the creation and broadening of alliances which would face up to the Latin American countries' problems.

BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR ON 'INTERVENTIONISM' IN C.A.

FL040207 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1818 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Bolivia's ambassador to Mexico, Mario Guzman Galarza, termed deplorable the Grenadier military maneuvers being conducted by the armies of the United States, El Salvador, and Honduras in the last country, because resources are being wasted in an insane arms race. He added that it is not possible for the superpowers to transfer their fights and differences to Latin America without recognizing the peoples' protests and demands, which reflect indignation for many years of exploitation, injustice, and social inequalities.

Likewise, he said this military situation constitutes a demonstration of interventionist policy which Latin America cannot accept, and Bolivia, for its part, rejects all types of intimidating policy in the region. He insisted that only the Contadora Group's negotiations can pacify the Central American region in conflict.

Guzman Galarza noted that the interventionists instead of going to Central America with arms and mining ports, should carry teachers, physicians, and resources to take the people out of backwardness and dependence for which the great superpowers are responsible.

The Bolivian diplomat said he recognizes the rights of all peoples to wage revolutionary wars of liberation when internal oppression and foreign domination obstruct the path toward the exercise of sovereignty and the practice of freedom. Referring to this, he voiced support for Nicaragua and its right to prepare against foreign intervention because, he said, his country is pacifist and repudiates all acts of violence against the national sovereignty of peoples.

AMBASSADOR TO OAS ON NEED FOR REFORMS, BOLSTERING

FL032103 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2333 GMT 2 Apr 84

[By Mario Luis Altuzar]

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- The political will of all member countries is needed to bolster the OAS, Mexican Ambassador Rafael de la Colina told NOTIMEX today.

The presidents of Mexico and Colombia, Miguel de la Madrid and Belisario Betancur, last week said they advocate bolstering the OAS as an international forum capable of finding solutions to the region's problems.

De la Colina, ambassador emeritus and Mexico's representative at the OAS, said that to bolster the international organization the charter establishing the OAS must unquestionably be reformed. It is very difficult to speak of bolstering the OAS when there is a lack of political will and there are many opposing views within it, he added.

He indicated that the OAS, as the United Nations and other Latin American organizations, has been and is efficient in some fields of action but, as every other mulilateral organization, has its limitations. A field in which the OAS has maintained its activity is in the economic, and last January during the Latin American Economic Conference it expressed the Latin American unity around a common interest, he noted. By contrast, the OAS has remained on the sidelines in the Central American conflict because of the prevailing diversity of views, and opted to leave that responsibility to the Contadora Group, composed of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela.

The ambassador noted that it is necessary to struggle to seek Latin American unity in all fields but, unquestionably, we must realize that the political will of each and every country in the area is required.

CTM TO BUY 10 PERCENT OF NATIONALIZED COMPANIES

FL021752 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2143 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] Monterrey, Mexico, 31 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Elias Zuniga Gutierrez, general secretary of the Confederation of Mexican Workers [CTM] labor union in Nuevo Leon State, stated today that the CTM will buy 10 percent of the companies which the federal government has put up for sale.

Zuniga Gutierrez said that most of the companies, which were for sale and which had been nationalized, were located in this area of northern Mexico.

He added that the workers, on becoming part owners in these companies, would receive better profits and wages, and that only public service companies will be owned.

Zuniga Gutierrez emphasized that the CTM had the financial resources to buy the companies because workers dues were invested in food and services companies.

The Nuevo Leon CTM plans that, in the future, workers will obtain at least a 50 percent of the profits which are generated by these companies. The CTM then pointed out that more than half of the 32,000 companies in Nuevo Leon do not provide profit sharing.

PST PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE BARRIA INTERVIEWED

PA302325 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 0115 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Video program "Know Your Candidate" with Ricardo Barria, presidential candidate of the Workers Socialist Party, PST; moderator Jorge Concepcion; and journalists Jose Franco, Cielo Conte, Hermes Sucre, and Migdalia Fuentes -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Conte] Mr Barria, can you tell us why you intend to nationalize banks, the Panama Canal, and private businesses?

[Barria] We advocate nationalizing the banks and the imperialist enterprises. We advocate nationalizing the canal and expropriating the major businesses. We argue that on the one hand, the canal belongs to Panamanians. The banks are means through which money flows freely in Panama without any benefits to the Panamanian people. We contend that the canal must be nationalized and the treaties must be abrogated so that we can solve the housing problem with the tolls we will collect. We are going to build more housing with this money. This will solve the housing problem of most Panamanians, and at the same time will provide more jobs for them. We will build more roads with the money we will not be using to settle the foreign debt. We will build more health centers with this money. We will also construct many public works through which we will give more benefits and more jobs to the Panamanian people, thus solving the problems of the people. Then we could add the explanation that we will work with the bank money. We are going to develop production in the countryside.

[Sucre] Mr Barria, why do you think that government by the workers and the poor peasants is the best solution to the country's current crisis?

[Barria] We propose that only a government by the workers and the poor peasants -- one without military men, landowners, and employers, without Yankee intervention, so the Yankees will not have to come and build works, as attempts are now being made to show that the Yankees have had to come and build the road to Mariato -- but a government that will concern itself with productivity and with solutions to the very tangible problems of the young people who are being persecuted in the roundups -- we contend that only a government by the workers would be prepared and would have the [necessary] conditions to free itself from any foreign or internal imposition by the forces that have always dominated us.

[Conte] Based on the views you have outlined, can we surmise that your government would plan to amend the Constitution?

[Barria] We do not advocate a reform to the Constitution We advocate a constituent assembly to draft a Constitution for the workers, the peasants, and the Panamanian people so the Panamanian people can achieve real development in all areas -- political, social, and economic.

[Fuentes] Does the PST advocate class struggle to reach power?

[Barria] The one that is provoking a class struggle is the government, which allows the Yankees to intervene here in Panama, on Panamanian territory. [It allows] soldiers to be trained here, military men to be trained here, to go and invade Central America, as one reads in the press. A short time ago we read that 2,500 troops left to crush the revolution, to crush the struggle in El Salvador. In our opinion, then, we are not the ones promoting the class struggle. The ones who are promoting it are the employers, the landowners, the government, and the Yankees, who have always lived off of and grown rich on our hard work.

[Fuentes] Mr Barria, you have strongly criticized the U.S. Government in all your statements here. If the PST reaches power, what kind of relations will it maintain with the United States?

[Barria] The PST will maintain relations with all countries and governments of the world that do not violate Panama's sovereignty. We will maintain relations with the U.S. Government if it does not attack us. If it continues trampling on our sovereignty, we will not maintain relations with it, but we will maintain relations with the U.S. people. Nothing divides us, the workers of the world. There is much that unites us. In this sense, and to this extent, I repeat, we will maintain relations with all governments that do not trample, assail, or harm our country's development as is the case today with the North American government, which is siphoning off the Panamanian people's wealth through the banks, its own enterprises, the canal, and a number of business activities here in Panama.

[Conte] What is your opinion of Panama's participation in military exercises in Central America?

[Barria] We said it from the start; we are against it. We cannot allow Panama's territory to be used as a place to train soldiers to crush a people's desire for freedom. At this moment we have much more evidence. We have always said that this government was pro-imperialist, and we have just seen it. We can see how troops are leaving from here for Central America, and now we see that they are going to hold joint maneuvers.

What does this indicate? It indicates support by the Panamanian Government for the counterrevolution. We criticize Panama's participation in this activity. The Yankees have no right to be in either Panama or Central America, and therefore they must go. We must get them out. So if we advocate getting them out, how could we allow the National Guard to support a counterrevolution?

[Sucre] You talk about North American imperialism. What can you tell us about Soviet imperialism?

[Barria] The concept of imperialism requires a good deal of clarification. In our opinion, imperialism is meddling by a country in political and military matters, in the economic structure [of another country]. Here in Panama, if we view it from these two standpoints only, Russia -- the Soviet Union -- for example, does not meddle in economic affairs. The one that meddles in economic matters here is imperialism. It is the one that gives orders in the canal and to the banana companies. It gives orders about what the government must do here. We think, therefore, that the Soviet Union is not imperialist, and even if it were, it is not intervening in Panama.

UNADE'S ARDITO BARLETTA DISCUSSES ECONOMY

PA031342 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Video statement by Nicolas Ardito Barletta, presidential candidate of the National Democratic Union, UNADE, at a dinner given by the UNADE Front of Professionals in the Atlapa Convention Center, Panama City, on 30 March -- recorded]

[Excerpts] I have a strong feeling that the Panamanian people, whom we have been greeting throughout our tour of the country, are day by day gaining a profound understanding that we are currently experiencing national and international economic crises that are resulting in serious social problems like the high unemployment in our country. They are realizing that they can now take part in this important task of electing their ruler for the next 5 years and continue to take part in the effort of the country's development. I sense in their greetings the excitement of the people and I feel that this understanding shared by all Panamanians will give the UNADE candidates the opportunity to serve the Panamanian people as they deserve to be served.

Regarding economic development, we must first reactivate our economy -- an economy that has been seriously affected by the worst international economic crisis of the past 50 years. Despite the crisis, we have significant advantages. We have natural resources, an established infrastructure, better-educated and harder-working men and women, the world economy's already noticeable recovery, and -- most important -- the determination and ability of you, a professional class that is courageous and determined to work for our country. The short-term objectives of the economic reactivation are the creation of new jobs, coupled with an acclerated increase in investments, especially by the private sector; the growth of exports; and the development of harmonious relations between workers and employers. To achieve economic recovery with available resources, we will have to seek the support of better-educated sectors to produce more and to create the jobs urgently needed by our fellow countrymen.

This is why we emphasize agrarian and industrial development of exports through a better use of reverted properties, of our geographic location in tourist and transportation activities, and of fishing and agriculture for export purposes. Naturally, we must not neglect trade and services, which are among our country's traditional activities, sectors that are and will continue to be among the most important of our economy. [applause]

To achieve this economic development, the bases of democracy must be consolidated with the establishment of a stable civilian government and a serious, efficient, and honest public administration in which government employees are better trained and more professional and to ensure for them genuine job security with promotions based on merit and seniority. [applause]

We will also work to achieve a genuine modernization of state institutions to improve their efficiency, eliminating administrative procedures and practices that present obstacles to development or lead to corruption. Among other things, the main feature of this modernization includes a thorough reform of judicial institutions and proceedings to make equal justice for all a reality. This economic growth and the generation of wealth will have real meaning only if they solve social problems in the areas of health, environmental protection, social security, low income housing, education, mass transit, and other public services.

ELECTION OFFICIAL CONFIRMS NEED FOR MORE FUNDS

PA302056 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Dr Rolando Murgas, magistrate vice president of the Electoral Tribunal, has confimred that this institution needs additional funds for the electoral process. When asked by this station about this, Dr Murgas said:

[Begin Murgas recording] The Electoral Tribunal had to estimate the cost of the electoral process very quickly and without prior antecedents. Our estimates have been surpassed, as not only did certain unforeseeable factors emerge, but policies were redefined. We have already told the president about this. He is pleased with today's activities and with the steps taken by the Electoral Tribunal. For this reason and because we want to be sure about the cost of this election, we have requested an additional sum of money. We are working on the final details, but we have estimated this sum at $1.5 million. If one considers that not only will two elections be held on different dates -- thus duplicating many of the expenses -- but the number of parties, candidates, and services that will be rendered to the voters as well, the final figure is not exaggerated. Many countries spend much more money per vote cast, as sometimes a not-too-high percentage of voters votes. [end recording]

TV STATIONS AGREE ON HANDLING OF POLITICAL ADS

PA010118 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 31 Mar 84 p 40

[Text] On 20 February the authorized representatives of the four private television stations operating in the country signed an agreement establishing the rules for the broadcasting of political propaganda on television. For the information of anyone who may be interested, we publish the document with the knowledge that it is of general interest to the community.

Notice

The enterprises that make up the commercial television industry in Panama, whose transmissions are broadcast on channels 2, 4, 5, and 13, have agreed on the following standards for the contracting of political television propaganda.

1. All political propaganda will be contracted for exclusively on the basis of 30- or 60-second commercials at the current established rates by each of the television stations.

2. There is no limit to the number of commercials that parties or candidates for elected positions may submit to each of the television stations.

3. The commercials must be delivered to the respective television stations 48 hours prior to broadcasting time.

[No number as published] A Council of Directors, composed of one representative from each of the four television stations, will evaluate the commercials submitted by the advertising agencies and reserves the right to reject those political commercials which, in its opinion, violate the norms of decency and good customs and those that would have a negative effect on the peace and tranquillity of the nation.

5. All political propaganda commercials must be prepaid.

6. The only contracts considered valid will be those signed by the legal representative of the enterprise, its general manager, or another person designated for this purpose.

The agreement signed by the four television stations is validated with the signatures of: Olmedo Miranda, Jr, for channel 2; Jaime de la Guardia, Jr, for channel 4; Gary Martin, for channel 5; Nicolas Gonzalez Revilla, for channel 13.

COSTA RICA

HONDURAS' GEN ALVAREZ HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE

PA040212 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2327 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] General Gustavo Adolfo Alvarez Martinez has asked the journalists to abstain from asking questions regarding his country because, he said, I am the guest of Costa Rica and therefore ask you not to ask questions regarding politics in my country. In this respect I respect the Costa Rican laws, he said. General Alvarez Martinez emphasized that no one will stain his honor. He added that he is not willing to negotiate with anyone and said that he has never betrayed the president of his country or the government. He said that he has always been an honest soldier. General Alvarez Martinez has a prepared statement, which he is now reading [words indistinct] Major Navarro at the San Pedro Sula air base when he was getting ready to return to Tegucigalpa on orders from General Walter Lopez Reyes. To this [word indistinct] and insubordination one must add the humiliation of having handcuffed me like a criminal and forcefully expelling me from the country. Therefore, the Constitution has been legally violated by the National Congress after the dismissal, based on the following procedures: a) at the written request of the president of the Republic to the National Congress, and b) at the voluntary submission of my resignation to the sovereign National Congress.

As you can see, said Alvarez Martinez, neither of these two conditions existed before I was forcefully expelled from my country.

This is part of the statement now being read by General Gustavo Adolfo Alvarez Martinez, who said that after this he would be willing to answer questions from local and foreign newsmen as long as they are not related to his country's politics, because this would violate the Costa Rican Constitution, and he said that he would not permit this.

At any moment we will give more information on the news conference now being held by Honduran General Gustavo Adolfo Alvarez Martinez.

[Begin live relay of Alvarez in San Jose, from Radio Monumental; in progress]... several persons would have to participate. In this respect [words indistinct] could be Colonel Armando Mejia Peralta and Colonel [name indistinct] Corrales, who were the paymasters of the Honduran Armed Forces during my term and therefore the handling of the finances and the budget, as well as the special account for emergencies in the central bank of our country, was their responsibility.

Lieutenant Colonel Jose Chavez Bu and Colonel Jose Alvarez Flores can be witnesses. They have been the high-ranking officers responsible for implementing the budget through purchase orders, payment orders, rentals, appointments, and other administrative actions.

I want to stress the injustice of which I have been a victim. My constitutional rights have been violated by not letting me stay in my country with my family. Justly or unjustly, I was removed from my position, but the most outrageous thing is that I was expelled from Honduras without evidence or reason. This is all the most inexplicable since the government claims that it does not maintain political exiles from any country in the world.

I want to return to my country and my family. I am not an adventurer to cause problems in my country. I love it very much and will always be prepared to cooperate in maintaining the peace and unity of the Honduran people.

5. [number as heard] I want to clarify that I do not want to be reinstated in my position. I only want the Constitution and the Charter of the Armed Forces to be respected. If the president of the Republic, rightfully or wrongly, has lost confidence in me, it is obviously unacceptable for him and for myself that I remain in my position. I only want my dignity as a soldier, my position, and my rank to be respected; to be permitted to surrender my position with appropriate honors, just as I assumed by position with appropriate honors. We are in a country that has laws. I am referring to Honduras.

6. I want to state for the record that yesterday afternoon on two opportunities the ambassador accredited before the distinguished Costa Rican Government gave me verbal messages from the supposed command of the Armed Forces, urging me to make no statements because I was an officer on active service, and I was not authorized to make them.

Under other circumstances, as the professional and obedient soldier that I am, I would have followed the order as a legitimate command. However, under the present circumstances, I am still legitimately the chief of the Honduran Armed Forces and therefore the top authority of the Armed Forces. Therefore, I am its spokesman. I give orders to my subordinates. They do not give me orders.

Furthermore, they want to force me to be silent, which would be equivalent to agreeing that I had betrayed the Constitution and was disloyal to the president of the Republic. I will never accept such charges because they are false and are detrimental to my honor as a soldier and a citizen. History will in good time judge those who are responsible for such a shameful action, which is also detrimental to my person.

I want to finish my statement by sending a message to the Honduran people, to reaffirm to them that I have not failed them, either as an officer or as a citizen. They followed my steps during several years of struggle to preserve peace and democracy. Now that I am the object of a dirty conspiracy, let the people judge me and they will see who has really failed and violated their sovereign will, which I have always respected and venerated.

Thank you, gentlemen, I am at your disposal for any additional question beyond what I have already said.

[Unidentified reporter] Have you signed any statement since you arrived?

[Alvarez] No, definitely not.

[Reporter] General...

[Alvarez] (?I would like) to have a moderator, because we need one.

[Reporter] General, [words indistinct] as chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, will there be a change in Honduran policy toward Nicaragua?

[Alvarez] I do not know, I could not say.

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] I understand that the United States respects the interests of every country. I could not answer that, I do not know.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] different types of operations [words indistinct] all these movements are carried out in coordination, and there are no loose ends. This structure that caused the resignation of several subordinate professional chiefs or comrades....

[Alvarez] It did not cause my resignation, I have not resigned [words indistinct] I still feel the pain.

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] I can tell you that during may administration I had the best of relations with the U.S. military. However, only time will tell whether there was any of that or not. I personally don't believe there was.

[Reporter] You have been described as the godfather of the Nicaraguan [word indistinct] forces composed of Somozist guards.

[Alvarez] I cannot answer that for political reasons [words indistinct]

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] that you have a home in Miami and are getting it ready to move there.

[Alvarez] I have no home outside my country.

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] No, and I will not say [words indistinct] cannot say what I am going to do.

[Reporter] Did you propose to declare war aginst Nicaragua approximately 1 month ago [words indistinct]?

[Alvarez] Completely false.

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] Absolutely not.

[Reporter] Do you have an explanation. . .

[Alvarez] Nothing. What I have told you is what I know.

[Passage indistinct]

[Alvarez] I will let history judge that. The only thing I want, because I do not want to cause problems [words indistinct] my country is now is such a delicate situation, as is the rest of Central America, that we need unity, we need peace, we need stability in order to face the mortal enery. We all know who that is. Therefore, I am not important enough to cause problems in my country. I only want two things: to reunite my family and that my honor as soldier and citizen be cleared. [Words indistinct] conditions of my country.

[Reporter] In statements made to the Honduran press some political leaders, in one way or another, said that Honduras [words indistinct] is a consolidation of the Honduran self-determination. They said that there could be [words indistinct] because there was a [words indistrict] between the civilian and military government. [words indistinct]

[Alvarez] Sir, I have already answered that question.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica when he met with you on Saturday. You spoke with Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica for 30 minutes. What did he tell you?

[Alvarez] He brought me a message from the president in which he reiterated his friendship and in which he stated that he was very sorry, but that what had happened was an accomplished fact.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] your leaving the country is a triumph for the civilian government because it has at least been proven that President Suazo Cordova is the one who gives orders in Honduras. Do you believe that this is a victory for the civilian government?

[Alvarez] I will repeat this: I always respected the Constitution and the legal powers; therefore, I always accepted that it was the constitutional government and President Suazo Cordova that gave the orders. I was always an obedient subordinate of the president.

[Reporter] General, you have faithful men who could defend your stance and who could [words indistinct].

[Alvarez] I don't know. As I have already said I don't want to provoke anything. I simply ask two things: that I be allowed to be with my family and a clean slate for my honor. I accept the fact that I was forced out, but I will not accept the statement that I was forced out because of an attempted coup d'etat, because that is not true. They are responsible for forcing me out, and they violated the constitution.

[Reporter] General, LA NACION, a Costa Rican newspaper, today states that a high ranking Honduran official said that the reason for expelling you from the country was that you recently refused to coordinate or accept instructions from the Pentagon.

[Alvarez] Gentlemen, as chief of the Honduran Armed Forces my actions were always as a representative of the Honduran Government and, therefore, as a sovereign government. Therefore, the things with the United States are finished. Honduras does not take orders from the United States. At least during my administration I was never aware of the president accepting orders from the U.S. Government. I obeyed the orders issued by the president.

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] Let's leave the subject alone, because this is now a problem of the government.

[Reporter] Do you feel your leaving will be positive for the political situation in Honduras?

[Alvarez] I don't know. Only time can tell.

[Reporter] Relations between Nicaragua and Honduras?

[Alvarez] I don't know.

[Reporter] General, have you met in San Jose with the members of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance?

[Alvarez] No. I have not had any contacts. My first public contact has been with you.

[Reporter] General, during your administration several ARDE members disappeared. They had been requesting asylum. Do you know anything of this?

[Alvarez] I am not aware of that situation. [words indistinct]

[Reporter] Which Army sectors are against you?

[Alvarez] I don't know, young lady. As I told you, I was arrested at the Air Force base.

[Reporter] How many men?

[Alvarez] I was arrested by four men. I really don't know who is on my side and who is against me.

[Reporter] It is true that you were threatened with a gun?

[Alvarez] No, that is not true, not true.

[Reporter] General, we were speaking of missing persons. A few years ago Costa Ricans disappeared at the Honduran border. What has happened to those people?

[Alvarez] That matter was handled through the Honduran Foreign Ministry. At that time I ordered an investigation into the matter. I informed the Honduran Foreign Ministry and the Foreign Ministry informed the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry. That is all I can say about this.

[Reporter] Have you ever been in the Modelo jail in Honduras?

[Alvarez] There is no such jail in Honduras. [words indistinct] I can't account for everyone who disappears in a country. Many people disappear in Costa Rica every day. The same happens in the United States, France -- everywhere. When the Foreign Ministry requested information I would issue orders to the police commander to investigate [words indistinct] and he would then inform the ministry of his findings.

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] Totally surprised. One last question, please.

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] I'd rather not answer that because that is a matter for the Costa Rican Government. [Passage indistinct] Whatever they decide, I will obey; I am their guest. [end live relay]

HONDURAS' ALVAREZ ARRAIGNED FOR DISAPPEARANCES

PA032221 Paris AFP in Spanish 2156 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] San Jose, 3 Apr (AFP) -- General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, former chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, was arraigned [acusado] before justice tribunals today for the disappearance of two Costa Ricans in Honduras, according to information supplied by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Guiterrez. The foreign minister said Alvarez will not be able to leave Costa Rica until the attorney general's office, which is subordinate to the Supreme Court of Justice, issues a ruling regarding the charges against the Honduran military officer.

Gutierrez explained that the attorney general's office told him Alvarez will not be able to leave Costa Rica "until his judicial situation" has been clarified. The official did not reveal who presented the charges against the deposed Honduran military officer, or the names of the Costa Ricans who disappeared in Honduras. The Costa Rican foreign minister estimated that the ruling by attorney general's office regarding this case might be issued within the next 3 days.

GOVERNMENT STANCE ON U.S. ENGINEERS VIEWED

PA022318 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 23 Mar 84 p 14-A

[Editorial: "A Change of Opinion"]

[Text] This newspaper yesterday carried on page 6-A statements by Fernando Berrocal Soto, minister of the presidency, on the arrival in our country of a group of engineers of the U.S. National Guard, which gives a new version on the U.S. aid and also a change of opinion or attitude on the part of the government of Luis Alberto Monge on its reasons at the end of last year to cancel the public roads development project and other infrastructure works that the technical group was supposed to have carried out in the country's northern zone.

If what he said is right and we do not get a reversal from government officials in a few days, as has happened before, Costa Ricans should assume that, with some minor modifications, since the southern border zone with Panama is going to be included in the plans, we are returning to the original idea, to the joy and hope of the inhabitants of the north and for the good of the country.

The truth is that we were deprived of the works that were going to be carried out in the north, and instead we got nothing, as a result of the misinformation campaign that the Marxists have launched in Mexico and some in parts of Europe against Costa Rica. This is a campaign that has not stopped because it does not need a reason, because they will always invent one if there is not one. Their goal is beyond naive and minor issues and it is our opinion that to have refused such important aid was just a demonstration of lack of resolution.

In view of the proportions of the projects to which Minister Berrocal has referred, we feel the government should make a categorical statement in relation to its change of policy and opinion to give its consent to the projects. We think it is time for Costa Rica to have its own opinion, one that it can advocate and carry out without fear of being ideologically embarrassed at any of those international organizations that like to assume anti-U.S. positions.

To modernize, recondition, and broaden the small airport at Llano Grande in Liberia is a very important job, not only for its direct touristic significance to Guanacaste, but because it can serve as an alternate to our national airport and because of the possibility of developing our air traffic. We feel that no one has the right to stand in the way of our efforts to develop our country's economic infrastructure by resorting to infamous misinformation campaigns. Nor can we deprive future generations of better living conditions because of mere political scruples.

The public roads projects for the south and the north will incorporate fertile lands that had been left out of our nation's economy. If these projects are carried out, more land will be accessible and agricultural production increased by linking the two border zones to the central plateau, a small portion of land, which has played a major role in the nation's short history.

EL SALVADOR

COLONEL, TWO GUARDSMEN KILLED IN SHOOTOUT

PA032248 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 2200 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Radio Cadena Sonora listeners, a few minutes ago we arrived at the place where the incident occurred -- Colonia Laico, 17th Avenue North. It was here that the attack against Colonel Socrates Yanez took place. We have learned that several heavily armed people, among them a woman, attacked the car Col Socrates Yanez was traveling in. Apparently, and from information received at the scene of the attack, Colonel Yanez was killed, and his son was wounded and taken to the Military Hospital. We have also been told that two other persons were killed when a National Guard vehicle that just happened to be passing by tried to intercept the guerrillas, an action that resulted in the death of two guardsmen. To this moment it is not known whether any civilians or rebels were killed during the attack. We were told that at least five people were killed, but it is only known for sure that three were killed and have already been picked up from the scene of the attack. The signs of fighting are quite visible.

We have remained in the area to learn a little more about the attack. As I said before, Col Socrates Yanez is probably dead. The attack was against Col Jose Socrates Yanez.

No organization has claimed credit for the attack, and the people of the neighborhood were not able to give more details because they were scared. However, we did learn that between 1350 and 1420 there was a heavy exchange of fire between Yanez' attackers and the national guardsmen.

AUTHORITIES IN SANTA ANA DETAIN FPL UNIT

PA012253 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 30 Mar 84 pp 2, 43

[Text] Santa Ana -- A Mexican woman had commanded an FPL [People's Liberation Forces] unit, which for some time had been operating in the coffee-growing area of Santa Ana Department's southern sector. In order to conceal their identities, the subversives pretended to be farmworkers on some of the plantations of that region.

The members of the FPL unit included Marisela Flores Ramos, alias Martiza, the FPL unit commander, Rene Alberto Henriquez Ortiz, alias Canache, the second in command of the FPL unit, who was in charge of reconnaissance and of planning attack operations; Miguel Castro Ramos, alias Nica, who was in charge of finances; and Jose Manuel Garcia Osorio, alias Tigre, who was in charge of propaganda.

All four members of the extremist unit were sent to the National Police Criminal Investigations Section, SIC, [Seccion de Investigaciones Criminales] until formal charges are brought against them for a series of crimes that they have committed, a military spokesman said. Once again the Armed Forces announces that it will work around the clock to do everything within its power to provide tranquillity for the citizens.

FMLN, ARMY CLASH NEAR DULCE NOMBRE DE MARIA

PA312307 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Report issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA; no date or place given]

[Text] Fifteen terrorists were killed and at least 25 were wounded yesterday when they clashed with troops of the 4th Infantry Brigade that were on an operation to search out and destroy extremist outposts in the area of Dulce Nombre de Maria in Chalatenango Department. Weapons and ammunition were seized from the terrorists. These included an RPG-2 rocket launcher, rockets, RPG-2 detonators, and cartridges for M60 and 5.56 mm machine guns. The FMLN members fled from the area with their wounded. The troops sustained two dead and one wounded.

FMLN: HONDURAN TROOPS, U.S. ADVISER ON BORDER

Unit in Position

PA311600 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] We have learned that a large unit of Honduran Army troops has taken up positions along the Honduran-Salvadoran border in the jurisdiction of Colomoncagua, contiguous to the Salvadoran Department of Morazan. It has been reported that a U.S. helicopter is accompanying the unit, and that it took a U.S. adviser who was aboard to the Colomoncagua military base. In the past few weeks the Honduran Army has been mobilizing many troops [passage indistinct].

Troops, Patrols Said Increasing

PA031656 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Attention. We have received late-breaking reports on the movement of Honduran Army troops in the border area, north of San Miguel and Morazan Departments. At this time, 1005, we are receiving important reports. Attention, here are late-breaking reports on Honduran troops movements in the border area north of San Miguel and Morazan Departments:

For the last 3 days the number of Honduran Army troops has increased in different positions along the Salvadoran border in the northeastern region. Along with the increase in Honduran troops, there have been patrols along the border. The number of troops in the Honduran town of Colomoncagua has increased. They have conducted patrols from there up to positions on the border, covering access routes to El Salvador.

On the morning of 31 March a column of Honduran troops moved from Colomoncagua to positions covering access routes to our territory.

Shortly afterward a U.S. adviser was taken by helicopter to [words indistinct]. The military adviser's mission was one of reconnaissance. At this time the Honduran troops of Colomoncagua are occupying the following positions: Cerro La Colmena, Cerro El Alguacil, and the town of Santa Anita. The Honduran troops in those positions belong to the Montaneses Command, and their activities include night patrols.

Increased Honduran troops and patrols have been noticed in the following other positions north of Morazan Department along the border region: Cerro El Alumbrador, Cerro Chagualaca, [name indistinct], and Cerro El Picacho. These positions have been occupied by Honduran troops since Wednesday, 28 March.

The troops stationed in Cerro El Alumbrador have carried out patrols under the command of a lieutenant named Aleman. Twelve U.S. military advisers have gone to this position on the border with Morazan. They have carried out direct reconnaissance activities of the area and of the access routes to El Salvador.

We ask our listeners to tune in our broadcasts, since we will be reporting all the movements of the Honduran Army and the U.S. military advisers on the Honduran border with Morazan and San Miguel Departments.

FMLN REPORTS ATTACK ON ARMY, HONDURAN MOVES

PA031620 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Report issued by the FMLN Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade, BRAZ, General Command; place and date not given]

[Text] The companies of the paratrooper battalion have been forced to flee in disorder to Ciudad Barrios. The paratroopers sustained many dead and wounded. On the afternoon of Monday, 2 April, our forces of the BRAZ advanced on Ciudad Barrios, seeking to weaken or annihilate the paratrooper battalion, one of the main elite battalions of the dictatorships. [Words indistinct] at 1600 our BRAZ units had dislodged the paratrooper battalion from [words indistinct] in Ciudad Barrios [words indistinct] inside the town. We repeat, at 1600 our military units had dislodged the paratroopers from all the strategic positions on the heights of Ciudad Barrios, encircling more than 700 troops inside Ciudad Barrios. This is the first time in the war that a battalion of special troops has been forced to run and then surrounded by the FMLN.

In the actions to dislodge the paratroopers our units inflicted a large number of dead and wounded. At 1700 another special battalion of the dictatorship, the Arce Battalion trained in Honduras, was transported by helicopter to the southern area of Ciudad Barrios due to the critical situation of the paratroopers. Another battalion of special troops began advancing through the area of Nuevo Eden de San Juan. Our BRAZ units are concentrating their efforts [passage indistinct].

According to initial reports, we have inflicted the following number of casualties on this battalion that has been forced to run: The FMLN has inflicted 53 casualties on the paratroopers battalion in northern San Miguel Department; 12 dead and 41 wounded. We also report to our people that in this new victory the FMLN seized one M60 machine gun from the paratroopers. We note that about 2 months ago BRAZ forces dealt another strategic blow on the paratroopers and Air Force in this northern zone of San Miguel by downing 2 helicopters and inflicting 30 dead on the forces of this paratrooper battalion near San Gerardo.

Attention. Here is late-breaking news. We have received reports indicating that as a result of the critical situation of the dictatorship's troops in northern San Miguel Department, Honduran Army troops have been mobilized to the border with El Salvador, north of the town of Carolina. We repeat. Due to the critical situation of the dictatorship's troops in northern San Miguel Department, Honduran Army troops have been mobilized to the border with El Salvador, north of Carolina.

Revolution or death, we will win!

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER DENIES U.S. SUMMIT INVITATION

PA311510 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0122 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 20 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran today officially denied that the government of this country had received an invitation from U.S. President Ronald Reagan to attend a summit meeting of Central American presidents. Andrade Diaz-Duran told ACAN-EFE that the reports on such a summit were sheer speculation and that the Foreign Ministry had no knowledge of the alleged meeting. The Guatemalan foreign minister thus responded to official statements about the alleged receipt of an invitation from Mr Reagan to attend the Washington summit in late April. The statement by Andrade Diaz-Duran conflicts with that of Colonel Pablo Nuila Hub, General Oscar Mejia Victores' chief of staff, that an invitation had been received and was beirg studied.

BELIZEAN POLITICIAN LOOK AT ASSEMBLY SEAT

PA021815 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Alejandro Vernon, Belizean deputy and opposition leader, has said he has received two proposals from Guatemalan political parties to be a part of their rosters as deputy for Belize during the constituent assembly elections. Vernon added that he has not been able to meet with Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran, despite having tried several times.

[Begin recording] [Vernon] Fifty percent of the work carried out by my party, the Toledo Progressive Party [Partido Progresista de Toledo], has been aimed at persuasion, at making known to the Belizean people the issue behind the claim [Guatemalan claim to Belize] and at establishing a peaceful, reasonable solution for the two sides. (?I am ready to admit) that our struggle in Belize will be useless if here in Guatemala [words indistinct] this claim to the territory of Belize.

[Unidentified reporter] What has been the reaction in Belize to your decision to occupy a seat in [Guatemala's] Constituent Assembly?

[Vernon] I have received one or two proposals here in Guatemala already. I would not like to indicate the parties involved, but they have been very (?specific) on this. There are two strong parties. I spoke to Mario Sandoval Alarcon, from the National Liberation Movement, who told me that the party will consider Guatemala's claim to Belize. [end recording]

Regarding the UK-Guatemalan territorial dispute, Vernon advocates a peaceful solution benefiting both sides and believes that Guatemala should continue claiming the territory of Belize.

[Begin Vernon recording] My party in Belize has carried out persuasion work for a peaceful solution of the dispute. It is our opinion that Guatemala should continue making its claim to Belize's territory, either to incorporate Belize into Guatemala or [words indistinct] arrangement between the two sides. So it was deemed best that I make this proposal here in Guatemala, so that the claim to Belize would be considered. [end recording]

TWO ARMY OFFICERS ARRESTED FOR KILLINGS

PA021340 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Bulletin released by the Guatemalan Army Public Relations Office; date not given]

[Text] The Guatemalan Army deeply regrets the murder of the honorable citizens Justo Ruben Gonzalez and his cousin, Jose Alberto Moreno Gonzalez, who were tortured and shot to death by the killers. By command of Head of State General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, Colonel Rodolfo Lobos Zamora, National Defense General Staff chief, has ordered the arrest of Army Infantry Captain Luis Antonio Vielman Garcia and of Army Infantry Lieutenant Jaime Anibal Regalado Salguero to determine their responsibility in this incident in which two honorable members of Guatemalan society lost their lives. There was a personal feud between Capt Vielman Garcia and Lt Regalado Salguero and Colonel Ruben Gonzalez, one of the victims. At this moment the two officers are being held in custody at the General Headquarters of Military Zone 1 in this capital.

Col Lobos Zamora has ordered the security corps to carry out an exhaustive investigation to determine those responsible for this horrible crime that has brought sorrow to two honorable Guatemalan families. Col Lobos Zamora has also ordered the arrest of Jose Adan Regalado Salguero, whose whereabouts is unknown, but who was last seen Tuesday night, 27 March, dining with the victims in a restaurant in Siquinala, Escuintla Department.

HONDURAS

'GRENADIER' FUEL CONSUMPTION CAUSES CONCERN

PA301525 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] The Petroleum Administration Commission, in keeping with a recommendation made by its technical group, has informed the Economy Ministry of its intention to end the existing monopoly in the purchase and distribution of oil derivatives in Honduras.

With implementation of the recommendation, which is being processed, the Texaco refinery in Honduras will no longer have an exclusive right to purchase reconstituted petroleum or refined products abroad for subsequent distribution locally.

The technical group, which received this request from local investors who sought to end the marketing monopoly, is seeking to meet the demand for fuel in the central, southern and eastern parts of the country, keeping in mind that a large part of the "Grenadier 1" and subsequent military exercises will take place in Olancho Department.

In addition, the group seeks to forestall any possible fuel shortage, and Puerto Castilla has the same facilities for the purchase and storage of fuel as does the Texaco Refinery, which is based in Texas.

In another quarter, Economy Ministry energy experts today declined to comment on the extent to which the military maneuvers that are underway or the presence of U.S. troops has influenced energy consumption. However, the experts are somewhat concerned, because it is believed that a total cost of 100 million lempiras will be added to our fuel bill.

ADVISER'S COMMENT ON 'PEACE AGREEMENT' CLARIFIED

PA301510 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] The Honduran Foreign Secretariat, in view of reports circulating in the media quoting Foreign Secretariat Adviser Jorge Ramon Hernandez Alcerro as saying that a peace agreement for Central America will be signed in April, explains that there has been no mention whatsoever of any treaty or general peace agreement.

What Hernandez Alcerro said was that at the end of April -- specifically, on 30 April -- the Contadora Gropu working commissions will deliver a final report with the results of their consultations at the joint meeting of Contadora Group and Central American foreign ministers.

We are clarifying this in order to prevent erroneous interpretations regarding the process of negotiations being conducted by the working commissions and to avoid false expectations in relation to the efforts which are aimed at achieving permanent peace for all the Central American countries.

Information and Press Directorate of the Hounduran Foreign Secretariat [as heard]

FISHING BOAT DETAINED IN COLOMBIAN WATERS

PA301520 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] San Andres, Colombia, DPA -- A 70-ton Honduran boat was stopped in Colombian waters near the Quitasueno Cay as it was beginning fishing activities, with some 600 pounds of snails [caracoles] in its hold. The Honduran vessel with its 17 crewmen was towed to the Island of Providencia by the Colombian Navy vessel San Andres, which then continued its patrol of the area. The boat and crew will be taken to the Island of San Andres, where its crewmen will be penalized and fined.

1,500 MISKITOS CROSS BORDER FROM NICARAGUA

PA031353 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 2 Apr 84 p 56

[Text] About 1,500 Miskitos last night crossed the border between Nicaragua and Honduras, in the Mosquitia area, according to statements yesterday by leaders of the MISURA (Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas) anti-Sandinist group. The leaders said that all the inhabitants of a Miskito village on the North Atlantic coast decided to flee toward Honduras. Along the way, most of the inhabitants of another community joined them, making a total of 1,500 Miskitos who are seeking protection. The leaders claim that the Nicaraguan Miskitos are accompanied by a U.S. newsman and a British citizen and that they are being protected by armed commandos of the MISURA Front led by Steadman Fagoth.

This exodus was compared to the one made last year by 1,000 MISURAS, who arrived in Honduras after walking for 5 days accompanied by the bishop of Bluefields, Msgr Schlaeffer. Since the FSLN assumed power, more than 20,000 Nicaraguan Miskito Indians have left their country to seek refuge in Honduras, claiming that the Nicaraguan Government's security forces are persecuting them. The Miskito refugees are beging settled in the Gracias a Dios Department, where the inhabitants belong to the same ethnic group. They are being cared for by various humanitarian organizations coordinated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

NICARAGUA

D'ESCOTO SENDS PROTEST NOTE TO HONDURAS

PA310010 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2322 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Protest note sent by the Foreign Ministry to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Pax Barnica; signed by Foreign Minister D'Escoto, read by unidentified Foreign Ministry official]

[Text] Mr Secretary, I address Your excellencey to inform you of the following event:

Yesterday, 29 March, at 0205 an undetermined number of Honduran Army soldiers attacked from Honduran territory the sector of Catarina, 3 km southeast of La Ceiba, while harassing the observation post of La leiba, 5 km west of Somotillo, with rifle and 81-mm mortar fire. Fortunately, no casualties were reported after this criminal aggression. On presenting its most formal and vigorous protest, the Nicaraguan Government réminds the Honduran Government about the dangerous consequences which may result from this kind of irresponsible aggressionl perpetrated by the Honduran Army in open contradiction of your government's much-publicized goals of peace and in a flagrant violation of the most essential norms which regulate behavior between states. The graveness of these events is increased because they are carried out during critical times for the region, characterized by the stepped-up U.S. military presence in the area, the increased offensive actions against Nicaragua, and an increasing submission by the Honduran Government to U.S. Government's plans to destroy the Sandinist people's revolution.

I take this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency my regards.

ARDE'S MINING OF LAKE PROTESTED TO COSTA RICA

PA040350 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Our Foreign Ministry today issued a protest note to the Costa Rican Government over a communique from the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, that was released in the Costa Rican capital. The following is the text of the protest note:

Mr Minister:

I address Your Excellency regarding the communique issued by the counterrevolutionary organization, the so-called Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, on 1 April 1984, which was released by its propaganda offices headquartered in San Jose, Costa Rica. In this communique ARDE announced that it has mined a 50-mile strip in Lake Nicaragua, between the mouth of the Sapoa Rivers and the town of Colon, and in front of the towns of Cardenas, La Pita, Sabalos, La Palma. Orosi, and Canas.

In formally protesting this new situation of aggression, the Nicaraguan Government once against requests from your illustrious government the adoption of the necessary measures aimed at preventing and eradicating the use of Costa Rican territory by mercenaries (?paid) by the U.S. Administration whose objective is to continue implementing a policy of state terrorism against my government. In doing so they are not only affecting the neutrality of your government but endangering the lives of the residents of the area, in view of the fact that the zone they claim to have mined includes transit areas for citizens of your illustrious country. In view of these facts, the Nicaraguan Government believes that this does not contribute to the efforts being made by our governments to alleviate the tension at our common border and hinders the correct relations that should exist between our governments, affecting the joint efforts being made in search of peace, stability, and security of the Central American region.

I reiterate the assurances of my consideration.

[Signed] Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, Nicaraguan foreign minister

RUIZ COMMENTS ON DEFENSE POLICY DURING GDR VISIT

PA300300 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Berlin -- Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz, Nicaraguan planning minister, reiterated in Berlin yesterday the Sandinist people's unyielding determination to defend national independence and the achievements of their revolution. Washington has been unable to deal a decisive blow to the Sandinist people's revolution, and that is why it has declared national war on the FSLN. The Sandinist leader said that the Government of National Reconstruction's policy of turning weapons over to the people has proven correct.

CULTURE MINISTER CARDENAL RETURNS FROM ABROAD

PA011807 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 26 Mar 84 p 4

[Text] Culture Minister and poet Ernesto Cardenal has returned to Nicaragua after attending an international meeting of authors on Palma de Mallorca Island in Spain on the subject of "Latin America, Exile, and Democracy," and subsequently attending the important meeting of the world movements of peace and liberation. "It was the first such meeting of peace movements of the United States and Europe with the liberation movements of Latin America, Asia, and Africa, and was highly positive because it was discovered there that the peace and liberation movements share common goals," the culture minister said on returning to Managua. Father Cardenal also stressed the conclusion that the struggle is being waged against a common enemy -- imperialism, the enemy of peace in the world and the enemy of the liberation of the peoples. The minister said in conclusion that "one can say that we reached virtually total agreement among a large variety of peace and armed struggle movements and found that the next step must be to seek common tasks among the liberation movements." Minister Cardenal announced that to plan common tasks between the two types of world movements it was necessary to hold another meeting, which he proposed that Nicaragua host.

U.S. PLAN TO BUILD AIRSTRIP IN HONDURAS ALLEGED

PA302015 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- A total of 300 U.S. troops of the 864th Engineering Battalion arrived at San Lorenzo port on the Gulf of Fonseca yesterday.

They unloaded equipment there for the construction of a new military landing strip in Honduras. The airstrip will be built only 15 km from the Nicaraguan border, and it will permit the landing of aircraft with U.S. and Honduran troops during the "Grenadier I" military maneuvers starting 1 April. Battalion commander (James Allison) said the purpose of building the airstrip was so the 864th Battalion could acquire training in this type of construction.

WORK AT SOVIET-NICARAGUAN HOSPITAL LAUDED

PA302158 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Under smothering temperatures of as much as 40 degrees centigrade, 15 doctors and 10 nurses from the USSR have been constantly at work in the Soviet-Nicaraguan Friendship Hospital in Chinandega. There are no words to express the courage and dedication that these disciples of health show in their concern for the health and welfare of our people.

In tents affected by dense dust clouds and suffocating heat, the ophthamologist carefully examines peasants affected by eye ailments or injuries received, perhaps, in a work accident. Most of them, who have left behind the comfort of their homes in the USSR, perform an average of six operations daily in the specialties of otolaryngology, gynecology, and ophthalmology, and general surgery.

The hospital, built to provide medical assistance during the May floods in 1982, is visited by patients from all over the country, and its fame has spread. At present, its surgery schedule is filled up to July of this year. Last year, according to the assistant director of the hospital, Dr Aleksandr Liptkov, the staff treated 77,000 outpatients. The hospital opens at 0800 and closes after the last person has been treated.

The patients' fondness for these doctors and nurses is great, and any patient asked about the attention received at the hospital says only the best about the treatment that these Soviet citizens afford them, in contrast to the criminal policy of the U.S. Government, many of whose victims have been treated in that hospital.

ACTIVITIES OF PORTUGUESE POLITICIAN QUESTIONED

PA311939 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Antonio Gomes Pinto, political vice president of the Social Democratic Center Party [CDS] of Portugal, arrived Thursday in Nicaragua, and yesterday, Friday, he was already saying that Nicaragua's electoral process, as it has been conceived, offers no guarantees to the democratic community.

The Portuguese politician appeared in last night's issue of LA PRENSA, signing -- along with Erick Ramirez, vice president of the Social Christian Party -- a declaration that also asks for the repeal of all laws preventing the full exercise of democracy and freedom in Nicaragua and for the implementation of political solutions to the current problems so as to stave off the possibility of a military solution.

We have no quarrel with the distinguished visitor from the CDS granting his support and solidarity to the positions of the opposition parties. He is entitled to this. However, we think that his Social Christian friends are very rapidly getting him involved in domestic policy matters that are the exclusive concern of Nicaraguans.

BORGE SAYS EFE CORRESPONDENT CAN RETURN

PA301505 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1440 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Managua, 30 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Spanish newspaperman Jesus Montesinos, expelled from this country yesterday by airport officials, may return "whenever he wants," Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge told the Spanish charge d'affaires in this capital. The Spanish diplomat, Luis Arranz, told ACAN-EFE that he talked with Commander Borge by phone early this morning about the expulsion of the EFE special correspondent.

According to Arranz, the interior minister said "such an order had never been issued" by his department; that Montesinos could return to Nicaragua "whenever he wants." Jesus Montesinos, 35, was returning to this capital yesterday after covering the elections in El Salvador, when officials of the Nicaraguan Government at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport prevented him from entering the country, escorted him to a plane, and expelled him.

RAMIRO SACASA BOARD LEADER VIEWS ELECTIONS

PA310435 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Jose Espinosa, vice president of the Ramiro Sacasa Democratic Coordinating Board, has described the National Assembly of Political Parties, the Electoral Law, and the Supreme Electoral Council as encouraging. He said that other conditions, such as lifting press censorship and the state of emergency, are necessary. Espinosa said that any political party that does not participate in the November elections will be isolating itself from the electoral process.

[Begin recording] [Espinosa] The consequences would really be many and varied. Nevertheless, I have yet to hear any party say that it will not participate in the elections. I have heard specific criticism about the conditions in which these elections are going to be held, in other words, the framework in which they will be held. I have specifically heard it said that if the elections are not held within a climate of freedom they will not be fair, honest or free. That is what I have heard said. I think there is some justification for such a statement because holding elections is not in itself democracy. Democracy is expressed through a number of freedoms, that is, freedom of expression, freedom of organization, freedom of movement, and political freedom. In other words, there are many factors that bring about democracy, which is expressed through the people's election of their ruler.

[Unidentified reporter] You spoke of the many consequences that a party's nonparticipation in the elections would have. What might these be?

[Espinosa] I think it would mean isolating themselves from the electoral process. This does not mean that they would lose their validity or status as political parties. Another case would be to participate in the elections come hell or high water and not maintain a struggle for the establishment of the very best conditions for the people to vote.

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Another situation would be to practically play into the hands of a process that is not democratic. It could also happen that if a party does not participate and does not use its own organization, it would be placing itself outside the political development of this country. A party's decision to participate or not to participate in the elections could have many consequences.

[Reporter] You mentioned the very best conditions to participate in the elections. This makes one think that you are referring to the U.S. Administration's recent escalation with the mining of the Nicaraguan ports and the counterrevolutionary actions on the border. Are you referring to this?

[Espinosa] I was not exactly referring to that when I mentioned the very best conditions. I don't know in what sense you are bringing this up. I don't know if you mean whether or not they exist. In any case, when I referred to the very best conditions I meant that there should be a climate of full freedom and above all, of confidence. This means that it is not enough to proclaim freedoms, but that they must be practiced. In other words, I can say that there is freedom of expression here but in practice, censorship continues and newscasts continue to be suspended, just to mention a few things. Nevertheless, I, my organization, and the Democratic Coordinating Board would like to have peace in Nicaragua. I wish there were no groups in the north or the south. I wish Reagan or his administration would stop giving money to cause difficulties in the country. I wish the Nicaraguan Government would stop limiting Nicaraguans' essential freedoms. I don't want any of those things, but it would also be great if internally there were a number of rights and freedoms that are limited. [end recording]

You have heard Jose Espinosa, leader of the CUS [Confederation for Trade Union Unity] and vice president of the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board.

REPORTAGE ON MILITARY CLASHES IN VARIOUS AREAS

Fighting in Jinotega

PA302202 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 Mar 84 p 10

[Text] FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] combat units of the Diriangen and Segovia regional commands have carried out a joint operation in which they attacked and dispersed serveral Sandinist People's Army [EPS] groups in Jinotega Department, an FDN spokesman reported. The operation was carried out in the early morning of 26 March in Los Terreros, Los Arcos and Los Portillones.

The same source said that the EPS forces suffered more than 300 casualties, and that the FDN destroyed 157 AK-47 Soviet made rifles and seized 26 in good condition. The FDN rebels ambushed three IPA [not further identified] army trucks and several jeeps transporting troops near Los Portillones, 35 km north of Jinotega and 20 km from San Rafael del Norte. The clandestine Radio 15 September reported that everyone in the Sandinist vehicles was killed during the ambush and that large amounts of military supplies were destroyed.

The joint operation, called "Casin Pulgas," was launched on 23 March with the occupation of San Rafael del Norte, the second most important city in Jinotega Department, which was held by the FDN rebels for approximately 5 hours. Radio 15 September said that the government's troops fled in all directions, leaving behind their military equipment.

In this combat, the rebels lost four dead and eight wounded. Our source also told us that the FDN guerrillas have firmly consolidated their new positions in the department as they advance to expel the oppressive communist regime.

ARDE Releases Bulletin

PA311624 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 30 Mar 84

[War Bulletin No 203 released by the General Command of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces in Sarapiqui, Rio San Juan Department, on 30 March]

[Text] The General Command of the Revolutionary Democratic Alliance, ARDE, reports to the Nicaraguan people and the free peoples of the world:

The Gaspar Garcia Laviana Column, which is part of the Felix Pedro Martinez Unit, which is commissioned to clean up the area of Pueblo Nuevo, in the jurisdiction of Nueva Guinea, has reported that one of its squads, which is commanded by Companero Mano de Piedra, ambushed a patrol of the occupation army on 26 March at 1400, inflicting seven dead on the enemy.

The next day at 0700 a squad commanded by Companero Flaco clashed with an enemy patrol and caused them three dead.

One hour later another squad, under the command of Companero Sin Conciencia, clashed with two patrols of the pro-Soviet EPS [Sandinist People's Army] that were attempting to surround our men. The high military preparedness of our squad, however, enabled it to retreat after causing the enemy seven dead. The enemy were left to fight among themselves for an hour. The number of their self-inflicted casualties was not learned.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

MISURA Attacks Town

PA312121 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] A counterrevolutionary group yesterday attacked the Indian community of Ninayeri, 70 km south of the Honduran border, on the Atlantic coast, and kidnapped part of the population, AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA has reported.

It is presumed that the counterrevolutionary group belongs to the so-called MISURA [Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas] organization led by Steadman Fagoth, the former agent of the defunct Somozist security corps, who has settled in Gracias a Dios Department, in sourthern Honduras.

The community of Ninayeri is very close to the Sandy Bay sandbar, north of Puerto Cabezas, on the Atlantic coast. Its population is estimated at between 800-1,000 people.

Contras Killed in Nueva Segovia

PA012235 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1330 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] Lieutenant Dennis Lanuza, chief of operations in Nueva Segovia Department, reported that a total of 40 counterrevolutionaries were killed in armed actions carried out in the municipalities of San Fernando, Ciudad Antigua, Yalaguina, San Juan de Limay, Las Sabanas and San Jose de San Lucas.

Lt Lanuza says in his report that a task force comprised of some 400 counterrevolutionaries that was trying to make its way into the area was repelled by the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] and the militia. The task force returned to Honduras demoralized, hungry, and without any ammunition, Lt Lanuza added.

According to Lt Lanuza, the counterrevolutionaries murdered four peasants and one militiaman. They also kidnapped 30 peasants and approximately 40 families had to take refuge in the municipality of Yalaguina.

Contras Attack Sandy Bay

PA012323 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Defense Ministry sources yesterday revealed that on 29 March a group of heavily-armed mercenaries and former Somozists coming from Honduras attacked Sandy Bay. The attackers sustained 24 dead and a still undetermined number of wounded.

The attackers were defeated and fled from the area, leaving behind large quantities of ammunition, RPG-7 rocket launchers, 70-mm mortars, and hand grenades, which have been confiscated. At the height of their brutality, the counterrevolutionaries captured three teachers and cruelly beat them; they also kidnapped two Miskito CDS [Sandinist Defense Committee] members, who were tortured and diabolically murdered. During their flight, the counterrevolutionaries also kidnapped several local inhabitants.

Four members of the Sandinist People's Army died heroically while defending the townsfolk and persecuting the outlaws. The dead men came from Corinto and their names were Emilio Suazo, Donald Pichardo, Juan Carlos Aburto, and Ernesto Medina. Their bodies were received last night at the Port of Corinto and posthumously honored by the people.

In addition, eight Sandinist companeros were wounded when they patriotically repelled the counterrevolutionary attack.

ARDE CHARGES 10 MEMBERS IMPRISONED IN HONDURAS

PA031637 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] San Jose, 3 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The opposition Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) of Nicaragua today denounced the recent disappearance of 10 of its members, who were detained and imprisoned in Honduras "by order of General Gustavo Alvarez," former Honduran Armed Forces commander in chief.

According to the report supplied by representatives of Eden Pastora's forces, the 10 men were in charge of organizing an "ARDE" commando in the north but were discovered, denounced, and taken prisoner by the Honduran Army.

The guerrillas were imprisoned in San Lorenzo and Choluteca where they were visited by friends and relatives, but 5 days ago was the last time they were heard of, and there is fear for their lives, according to ARDE spokesmen.

In view of its failure in this capital, the ARDE will request the intervention of Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova in the coming hours, ARDE members reported.

ARDE cited a partial list of the missing persons, including the following: William Mejia Vargas, Jorge Humberto Corrales Salgado, Noe Gomez Jimenez, Alvaro Miranda Terres, and Marvin Benavides Jimenez.

Also, the insurgent ARDE command today reported the results of fighting last week in which 8 persons were wounded and 38 Sandinist People's Army (EPS) soldiers killed, according to a war report.

The Santos Lopez Column led by "Walter" engaged in combat with an EPS patrol in Nueva Guinea, between Esperancita and Angostuva, where five soldiers were killed and three wounded.

The Sandinists sustained seven dead and five wounded in the attack with rifle and artillery fire on the military command of Los Chiles in Las Azucenas, Rio San Juan Department.

According to ARDE, the Sandinists lost 16 more soldiers in other fighting in the vicinity and 10 in Nueva Guinea in a strategic movement which, according to Pastora's men, left the government troops fighting among themselves.

BRIEFS

DELEGATION TO IPU MEETING -- A State Council delegation led by Deputy Commander Rafael Solis traveled to Switzerland to take part in the 71st IPU conference slated for early April. [Summary] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 29 Mar 84 PA]

CUBAN CONTINGENT ARRIVES -- The last group of the Cuban Augusto Cesar Sandino Teachers Contingent arrived in the country this morning. A total of 160 Cuban teachers arrived aboard a Cuban Airlines flight. The Cubans said they want to contribute to the overall development of Nicaragua. [Summary] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 28 Mar 84 PA]

FRG DEPUTIES VISIT -- FRG Deputies Helmut Slhaeter, of the Liberal International, and Guenter Hercerich, of the Social Democratic Party, have arrived in Nicaragua to learn about the technical procedures for the 4 November elections. They arrived from El Salvador, where they acted as observers during the elections. They said that they had observed some technical irregularities in the process and that Nicaragua could benefit from this experience. [Summary] [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 27 Mar 84 p 9 PA]

INTERNATIONAL LOAN AGREEMENTS -- The Nicaraguan Import Enterprise, which comes under the Nicaraguan Foreign Trade Ministry, has announced that it has obtained the following loans to promote Nicaragua's metalworking industry. The Argentine firm DIAMIT, S.A., has extended a loan for $5 million on an 8-year term at an 8-percent interest rate for the purchase of machinery and equipment for the iron and steelworking branch of the People's Industrial Corporation. The Brazilian firm Belgo Mineira extended a loan of approximately $3.5 million for the purchase of 12,000 tons of the steel used to manufacture the strappings to bind the crates of cotton for exporting. Cuba extended a loan for $20 million for the purchase of chemical products, agricultural and transportation machinery, building materials, and household appliances. The USSR signed a credit agreement for $8.2 million and Bulgaria another for $10.4 million, both for the purchase of food. Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and Colombia are also included in the credit agreements that have been contracted by the Nicaraguan Government. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 29 Mar 84 PA]

USSR'S 'LENINGRAD' REMAINS ANCHORED IN HAVANA

PA032138 Paris AFP in Spanish 2119 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Havana, 3 Apr (AFP) -- The missile-launching and helicopter carrier cruiser Leningrad of the Soviet Navy, which arrived in Havana on 26 March, remains anchored today in the port of the Cuban capital despite reports to the contrary from London, an AFP correspondent has confirmed.

Since its arrival in Havana, the members of the Soviet detachment have been received by various Cuban authorities, including Raul Castro, first vice president of the Council of State, FAR minister, and brother of President Fidel Castro.

A spokesman of the British Defense Secretary today announced in London that the Leningrad had sailed from Cuba.

CASTRO CONGRATULATES TRANSPORTATION WORKERS

FL031558 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1203 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has sent a letter to the port workers in which he congratulates them for their outstanding work during the first quarter of 1984. One of the paragraphs of the letters says: Faced with massive ship arrivals, during a month of maximum sugar loading activity, you have shown courage and honored your pledge, unloading in March -- despite frequent rains -- the impressive figure of 796,000 tons, which far exceeds the record of 747,000 tons established in July 1980.

The letter continues: This is the eloquent expression of the unyielding will of the workers: port, maritime, railroad, and truck transport workers, and warehouse stevedores.

In another paragraph the letter says: For this feat we express our gratitude and admiration to you, the port workers, and to the rest of the workers who participate in the cargo transportation chain, whose unselfish contribution has made possible such a brilliant work victory.

Fraternally, Fidel Castro Ruz, Havana, 1 April 1984, [words indistinct] anniversary of the triumph of the revolution.

MALMIERCA ENDS OFFICIAL VISIT TO FRANCE

FL040016 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today concluded his working visit to France. He told local journalists there was a need to check the U.S. military escalation in Central America.

CABRIZAS ARRIVES IN PERU FOR ECLA MEETING

FL040022 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas today arrived in Lima, Peru, where he will attend the 10th ECLA ministerial meeting beginning tomorrow.

URBAN BUS SYSTEM NOW UNDER ANPP CONTROL

FL031547 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Havana's city bus system has come under the control of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] in accordance with a law signed in Havana. Commander of the Revolution Guillermo Garcia, Politburo member and minister of transportation, and Oscar Fernandez Mell, member of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Provincial Assemblies of the People's Government signed the document.

The urban bus system has approximately 2,000 vehicles and has averaged 29,000 trips a day in the first quarter of this year.

U.S. CONCLUDES CARIBBEAN FORCES TRAINING

FL031626 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1318 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Cabled dispatches from Castries report that a series of intensive military courses sponsored by the United States have just been completed in six eastern Caribbean states. Elite forces of the following states participated in the training, which was held in strictest secrecy: Barbados, St Lucia, St Vincent, Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, and Jamaica, which now consider themselves ready to participate in a regional Caribbean organization.

Various explanations have been given for the training program financed by the United States. One was given by the Government of St Lucia, which declared that the courses were intended to prepare the island's police force for any possible insurrection. Political media agree that the courses are part of the U.S. plan to establish a reginal military force under its control.

LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC CRISIS ANALYZED

PA031418 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Apr 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpt] Figures provided by ECLA reveal that the area's countries are currently using 35 percent of their income from exports to pay interest on their $315-billion foreign debt. In 1983 Latin American countries paid $30 billion to the industrialized capitalist countries, especially the United States. This means that Latin America, needing those financial resources more than ever to weather the worst economic crisis of its history, paid a huge amount of capital to the Western economic powers.

According to ECLA and SELA, Mexico, the country with the second-largest foreign debt on the continent, pays $12 billion yearly in interest alone. This means that every 7 years Mexico pays in interest almost the total amount of its current debt. According to World Bank figures, in 1983 Latin American countries paid out more than $350 billion in capital and interest. The four countries with the largest foreign debts are Brazil, which owes $100 billion; Mexico, $90 billion; Argentina, $40 billion; and Venezuela, $35 billion. These four countries' obligations equal three-fourths of Latin America's total foreign debt. These four countries plus Chile and Bolivia will theoretically have to pay out between 70 and 100 percent of the foreign exchange obtained from their exports. That percentage will not be enough to meet their obligations this year. We must also take into consideration U.S. interest rates. Every .5 percent that the United States raises its interest rates costs Latin America $1.5 billion more a year.

The foreign debt situation becomes even more critical because of the strong protectionist policies of the northern industrialized countries. This protectionism prevents free trade and decreases the Third World's chances of obtaining new foreign reserves to reactivate its battered economic situation.

Latin America's acute foreign debt crisis has worsened because their foreign reserve sources are in crisis. The prices of Latin America's basic export products have dropped.

HONDURAN EVENTS SAID TO REVEAL INTERNAL STRUGGLE

FL031915 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Radio commentary]

[Text] Last weekend's events in Honduras are an example of the tension which this country feels in being completely controlled by Washington's aggressive policies. Official Honduran sources have stated that President Roberto Suazo Cordova has assumed command of the Armed Forces -- in what some people consider a civil coup d'etat, from a constitutionally legal standpoint -- with the support of the Air Force in order to prevent a putsch, which General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez was said to be preparing.

Alvarez Martinez seemed to be very sure of his position as head of the Armed Forces until the moment he was forced to resign and leave the country. It seems that it was not enough that he be unconditionally Washington's man, supporter of an imperialistic intervention in Central America, accomplice of the Salvadoran genocidal regime, supporter of aggression against Nicaragua, and the one responsible for the disappearance of many Hondurans as well as for many other repressive actions against the people.

Alvarez Martinez's exit from political leadership was due to an internal power struggle after those who were suing him found it unnecessary to do so any longer. He was used by the White House to mislead public opinion by giving the appearance that Honduran democracy was strengthening. This action is without a doubt the beginning of the increasing role the reactionaries will play in the country.

President Suazo Cordova is as anticommunist as General Alvarez Martinez. His government has turned Honduras into a base for imperialism's aggression. He is as much an enemy of the Sandinist revolution and of the Salvadoran patriots as his former chief of the Armed Forces was, and Suazo Cordova will, without a doubt, be more docile than Alvarez Martinez when it is time to carry out Washington's orders to begin a massive attack against Nicaragua or against the Salvadoran guerrillas.

An example of these traits is the fact that John Negroponte, the Yankee ambassador to Honduras, has stated that the Pentagon will continue its military activities in that country, which now go beyond a mere demonstration of force and seem more like the beginning of a massive invasion of Nicaragua or El Salvador. The carrying out of the Grenadier I military maneuvers confirms these traits because the maneuvers were started without incident in spite of the Honduran military leadership changes.

It has not gone unnoticed that President Suazo Cordova's aggressive policies have remained unchanged 72 hours after the civil coup d'etat. It is Washington's turn now to make the next move and to show its omnipotent influence in Honduras. The change is really in Washington's interest and there will be repercussions not only in Honduras but also throughout Central America.

SALVADORAN ARMY LAUNCHES ANTIGUERRILLA OFFENSIVE

FL301430 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] The Salvadoran Army has sent more than 5,000 soldiers to Usulutan, San Miguel, and Morazan Departments in eastern El Salvador, which means that a new large antiguerrilla offensive is under way. Some 2,000 of these soldiers, supported by planes and artillery units, were mobilized in Morazan and were sent to the Honduran border where thousands of Honduran and U.S. troops have been stationed. The regime's troops sustained many casualties in clashes with rebel forces in Morazan last weekend.

Meanwhile, spokesmen of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] have charged that a group of top Salvadoran officers have been planning a plot for several days. According to these spokesmen, these officers oppose Jose Napoleon Duarte, the PDC presidential candidate and the apparent winner of Sunday's electoral farce.

SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS FOIL TERRORIST OPERATION

FL031549 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Radio Venceremos, the Salvadoran guerrilla radio station, has reported that a terrorist operation backed by the CIA and Honduran officials was attempted against the Sandinist leadership and the Salvadoran People's Revolutionary Army [Ejercito Revolucionario del Pueblo del El Salvador]. The plan, which was discovered and aborted, also called for the destruction of Radio Venceremos, the FMLN's official voice. In a special Radio Venceremos broadcast, Commander Ana Sonia Medina, chief of the guerrilla's intelligence and counterintelligence services, described the plan in detail and named several of those implicated in the operation.

Once the plan was known, the guerrillas began in March to capture several CIA agents and to disband the internal network which was to support the operations.

GUATEMALAN FAR MEMBER ON MANEUVERS, ELECTIONS

PA300154 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Interview with Modesto Betancur, member of the rebel Armed Forces [FAR] of Guatemala, by unidentified Radio Havana reporter; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] What is your opinion of the recent statements by the head of the Guatemalan military regime, Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, that Guatemala would not participate in the upcoming military maneuvers in Central America?

[Betancur] Majia Victores' position of not participating in the Grenadier I maneuvers is part of the government's opportunistic policy to obtain loans and financial support from the United States. It is also a way of pressuring imperialism, in that unless the United States grants more direct financial and military support to the Guatemalan regime there will be objections to participating in military maneuvers. Besides, there are economic factors that explain the Guatemalan position, such as existing bilateral trade with Nicaragua and El Salvador.

From the military aspect, however, there are several factors of greater substance. One of them is the fact that Guatemalan officers refuse to be subordinate to Honduran officers because the Guatemalan Army has been engaged in counterinsurgency activities for over 20 years, that is, throughout the existence of the revolutionary movement for the liberation of the Guatemalan people.

In addition, the Guatemalan Armed Forces do not want to reveal to other armies their operational weakness. The presence of the revolutionary movement and its drive in Guatemela clearly show that the counterinsurgency tactics of the Army have failed. Furthermore, the regime cannot divert its military resources in view of the various rebel plans under way, such as Firmness 82, Victory 82, Firmness 83, and others.

The above are the most important reasons for Mejia Victores' deciding against the participation of the Guatemalan Army in the Grandier I maneuvers.

[Reporter] What do you think about next July's elections in Guatemala?

[Betancur] The elections are only a political maneuver of the Guatemalan regime to weaken the influence of the revolutionary movement, to offer a false image to international public opinion, and to deceive the Guatemalan people, who are increasingly joining the ranks of the popular revolutionary movement through the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity in the struggle for establishing a revolutionary, patriotic, popular, and democratic government.

[Reporter] It is said the United States has been the main organizer of the Guatemalan elections just as it has been in El Salvador.

[Betancur] The United States is actively sponsuring the upcoming elections in a false show of democracy. There is no doubt that it will not work, as it is a new political maneuver which will not have the expected results. So long as the constant violation of human rights, the razed-land policy, the destruction of villages, and the persecution of refugees continue, any political maneuver will fail. The only thing left is to increase the popular revolutionary war toward our objective for a revolutionary, patriotic, popular, and democratic government.

[Reporter] Do you see any relation between the elections in the United States and those in El Salvador and Guatemala?

[Betancur] There is a relation, because the U.S. Administeration by holding elections in El Salvador and Guatemala, will improve its image before its own people, that is, as leaders of democracy fostering electoral events in countries struggling to improve their situation. That is a maneuver by the administration to help it in the upcoming elections in the United States.

BORGE ACCUSES CIA OF TERRORISM IN NICARAGUA

FL031716 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1515 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge has reported that the Reagan administration has assigned to the CIA the task of financing the terrorist campaign aimed at Nicaragua. In an interview he gave to the Mexican newspaper PROCESO, Borge called upon the world's democratic governments and organizations to protest Washington's criminal acts against Nicaragua.

NICARAGUA PROTESTS HONDURAN ATTACK ON CATARINA

PA022250 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has sent a note to its Honduran counterpart protesting an attack by the Honduran Army with rifle and mortar fire against the Nicaraguan border community of Catarina. The note, one of several in which Nicaragua denounces the latest aggressions by the Honduran Army and the anti-Sandinist groups established in Honduras, warned of the seriousness of these actions, which take place at a critical moment for the region, facing an unprecedented military escalation on the part of the U.S. Government.

Nicaragua has denounced before the UN Security Council the new aggressive escalation on the part of the United States and asked for immediate action to stop the war being promoted by Washington in Central America.

Nicaraguan Ambassador Javier Chamorro said the efforts of the international community and of the Contadora Group have not sufficed to reduce the threat of war in the region, though he admitted they have so far prevented it from breaking out. Chamorro pointed out that the Security Council meeting was called by Nicaragua to denounce other aggressions which, in view of their sophisticated technical quality and use of modern equipment, are a significant escalation of the undercover operations against the Nicaraguan people.

The diplomat justified his country's great concern over the criminal mining of the Nicaraguan ports, which is an actual menace to international navigation and the realization of the economic blockade started several years ago. He also referred to the large number of U.S. troops brought into Honduras, which he described as the new land aircraft carrier. In that respect, Chamorro said that there are 14 military air bases and landing strips in that country, while there are plans already under way for the construction of three training centers and a modern communications system in the immediate future.

Finally, Nicaragua exhorted the United States to amend its errors and avoid leading the world to a conflagration of unpredictable consequences.

MINES DEACTIVATED IN NICARAGUA'S PORT OF CORINTO

FL031430 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] A group of expert scuba divers in Nicaraguan fishing boats have deactivated and detonated without incident 27 mines which had been placed in the Port of Corinto by CIA-backed counterrevolutionaries. Brigade Commander Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo, chief of staff of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS], told the press that 18 fishing boats had been assigned to detonate and defuse the mines. He added that several smaller boats have been told to set off dynamite along the coast so that the shock waves would detonate the mines in that area.

Meanwhile, counterrevolutionaries operating from Costa Rica have again threatened to set up a naval blockade against Nicaragua. This information came from a communique which indicated that the CIA supports this type of action. The document states that nearly 50 km of Lake Nicaragua's banks, in the southern part of the country, had been mined since Monday. The Sandinist government has severely condemned these criminal actions and has blamed the U.S. Government for these actions which endanger the lives of innocent people.

Another report states that Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has said that Nicaragua's Catholic bishops are of the opinion that elections are a right guaranteed by the Sandinist revolution. However, Ortega, in another statement, said he was sorry that the country's principal religious leaders were silent on imperialism's constant attacks against this Central American country. Ortega compared this attitude with that which the U.S. Episcopate Conference [Episcopalo] holds; they have repeatedly condemned attacks against the Nicaraguan people.

A report has been issued that names the three members of the Supreme Electoral Council [Consejo Supremo Electoral], which is the organization in charge of the general elections on 4 November, 1984. The council will be formally installed tomorrow before the Supreme Court of Justice, said the president of this body, Roberto Arguello Hurtado.

COURT-MARTIAL, PROTESTS IN CHILE REPORTED

PA302354 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] The Chilean Supreme Court has authorized the establishment of a court-martial to try three members of the outlawed MIR, Movement of the Revolutionary Left, for whom a military prosecutor has requested the death sentence. The three accused, Jorge Palma Donoso, Carlos Araneda, and Hugo Marchan, have been charged with participation in the attack in which Carlos Urzua, the intendant of Santiago, was killed in August, 1983.

In the Chilean capital, Rodolfo Seguel, president of the National Workers Command, described the eighth nationwide protest of Gen Augusto Pinochet's military dictatorship as an overwhelming success. Similar words were used by spokesmen for the opposition political coalitions, the People's Democratic Movement and the Democratic Alliance.

The Chilean fascist regime brutally crushed the antigovernment demonstrations held on Wednesday, leaving a toll of 5 dead, 50 wounded, and over 400 arrested.

PERUVIAN MINISTER'S RESIGNATION NOT ACCEPTED

PA302356 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry has rejected justice Minister Ernesto Alayza's resignation, which was submitted following a bloody prison mutiny. President Belaunde said that Alayza was not responsible for what happened in that prison last Tuesday.

During the incident several policemen were held hostage by prisoners demanding better conditions in the prison.

MEXICAN, BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT HOLD SUMMIT

FL302106 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1923 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] The presidents of Mexico and Brazil have expressed great concern that a general conflagaration might break out in Central America. Miguel de la Madrid and Joao Baptista Figueiredo today will sign a joint communique in which it is thought that they will deal with the effects of the international economic crisis and the current situation in Central America.

The president of Mexico arrived last Wednesday in Brazil on an official visit and today he will conclude his stay in Brasilia and continue to Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, where he will remain until Monday. During the official talks between De la Madrid and Figueiredo, both men agreed that the Contadora Group and its political and diplomatic efforts are the only valid means of peacefully solving the region's problems.

GRENADIANS FACE ELECTIONS WITH INDIFFERENCE

FL301447 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Indifference, apathy, and uncertainty are the attitudes of Grenadians toward an announcement on preparations for elections which will be held late this year under the U.S. occupation. The traditional political parties, including the United Labor Party of former dictator Eric Gairy, are getting ready to participate in the elections for power in St George's, which is full of hundreds of U.S. armed soldiers and members of contingents from seven countries of the English-speaking Caribbean sector.

Two weeks ago Grenadian Governor Paul Scoon announced that electoral registration will begin on 12 April and that elections will probably be held in late November 1984.

REAGAN'S LETTER UNLEASHES DOMINICAN DEBATE

FL022033 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Commentary by PRENSA LATINA's Moises Blanco Genao in the Dominican Republic]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan's letter to the Dominican Republic's president, Salvador Jorge Blanco, published in Dominican newspapers, has generated anger in various social and political sectors. In the letter, Reagan says that the United States will not intercede on behalf of the Dominican Republic with the IMF by asking it to be more flexible in its demands toward this government. Reagan's letter to Jorge Blanco was sent to the newspapers last week by Hatuey Decamps, secretary of state of the Presidency.

A national debate has been unleashed by the publication of Reagan's letter, and it is currently front page news in Dominican newspapers. In firm and discourteous terms -- reported the newspapers -- President Reagan has requested that Jorge Blanco sign the IMF's document agreeing to extend the Agreement of Extended Terms [Convenio de Facilidad Ampliado] for a 2d year, an agreement which has been rejected by the business sector, labor unions, political parties, and professional and student groups. President Reagan has made disbursement of the so-called U.S. economic aid to the Dominican Republic conditional on the signing of the IMF accord.

Professor Juan Bosch, former president and leader of the Dominican Liberation Party [PLD] said he was very sad that the Dominican Republic's president had had to seek out the U.S. president, putting before him the problems which the country would have if the IMF did not show more flexibility.

The Dominican Republic's United Left [IU] said through one of its leaders, Rafael Safatavera, that Reagan's letter is a demonstration of the type of modern economic policy which the United States uses.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

OUTGOING PRC AMBASSADOR ON TECHNICAL AID

FL032345 Bridgetown CANA in English 1831 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, April 3 (CANA) -- China's outgoing ambassador to the Eastern Caribbean, Wang Tao, has promised additional technical assistance to Antigua and Barbuda by mid-year.

Tao, who has just concluded a farewell visit here, said during a courtesy call on Prime Minister Vere Bird, that a team of experts will be coming here in May to assess the country's agricultural development needs. During Bird's visit to the Far East last year, China pledged two million dollars (one EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) in development assistance to Antigua and Barbuda, most of which the prime minister said will be pumped in the agricultural sector.

During the farewell talks, Bird referred to China as a giant in its economic development strides and said he was pleased with the support it was giving to Third World countries. He added that because of a fast developing economy, China can be seen as a balancing and stabilising force between the super powers.

GRENADA

AUTHORITIES REPORT ARMS CACHE AT CUBAN EMBASSY

FL032245 Bridgetown CANA in English 2238 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, April 3 (CANA) -- The Grenada authorities today reported the discovery of an arms cache, including over one million rounds of ammunition, at the building housing the Cuban Embassy here.

A Government Information Service (GIS) release said the cache also included at least 49 M-16 rifles, 40 AK-47 automatic rifles, "numerous" handguns of various sizes, and three rocket propelled grenade launchers.

The discovery was made during a search from March 23 - 26 by Grenadian police and Caribbean peacekeeping force soldiers following a tip off. The last Cuban diplomat stationed here, Charge D'Affaires Gaston Diaz, left Grenada on March 19. The release said a Grenadian guard at the embassy building had stumbled upon what he believed to be a closet with a false bottom while on duty and a subsequent search made by security officials revealed the arms.

The release said the weapons would be put on display on Thursday at Fort George where Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and several others were gunned down in the October 19 army coup.

Grenada was Cuba's closest ally in the Eastern Caribbean under the ousted People's Revolutionary Government (PRG).

After the U.S.-led military intervention on October 25 to oust the coup leaders, Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon downgraded relations with Cuba and expelled all Cuba officials except Diaz.

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS PULLOUT OF NAMUCAR

FL032042 Bridgetown CANA in English 1730 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, April 3 (CANA) -- The Jamaica Government has complained of getting "no tangible benefits" from the multinational shipping line NAMUCAR, established in 1975 by six Latin American and Caribbean countries, including Cuba.

The Jamaica transport minister, Pearnel Charles, in a speech here Monday, said that when NAMUCAR wase set up its aim was "to provide an efficient shipping service to the region and to facilitate greater intra-regional trade."

"The line has failed completely to achieve any of its stated goals," Charles told regional shipping officials at a conference seeking solutions to maritime transportation problems in the Caribbean.

Shipping officials said remarks by Charles appeared to indicate that the Edward Seaga government is seriously considering withdrawing from the line.

"The writing appears to be on the wall," said one official.

The NAMUCAR issue goes beyond business, having ideological overtones, as the Seaga government in 1981 broke diplomatic ties with Cuba and has since then had cold relations with Havana.

The GLEANER newspaper yesterday published allegations that one of NAMUCAR's ships, Los Caribes, had been, without the knowledge of the general management, used to transport arms from Cuba -- with which the Seaga government broke relations in 1981 -- to Nicaragua and El Salvador.

It also urged that Jamaica pulled out of the company, saying that its presence provided legitimacy for Cuban and Soviet expansion in the region.

Los Caribes was recently mined off Nicaragua by U.S.-backed guerrillas attempting to overthrow the Sandinista government in Managua.

The GLEANER claimed that the ship had in 1978, while on a lay-over in Cuba and under the command of a Cuban captain, been secretly fitted with false bottomed fuel tanks which facilitated the smuggling of contraband, such as weapons.

"I will be calling upon all the shareholders to support me by taking a decision directing management that when the Los Caribes ... goes into drydock for repairs, a thorough examination of the vessel should establish once and for all (to determine) whether the allegations concerning false bottoms are correct," Charles said.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRD DEPUTY WANTS IMF NEGOTIATIONS TO STOP

FL021450 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] A Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] deputy has said that he will submit a resolution to the Chamber of Deputies asking that President Jorge Blanco break off IMF negotiations. Deputy Ramon Medina said that this resolution will ask PRD members to undertake more responsibility for their country and the situation which the country will face once it breaks with the IMF. Medina also said that the IMF prevents the PRD from opposing its own government. He added that the PRD must change its attitude toward government and the problems which affect the majority of Dominicans.

ECUADOR

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL ISSUES CALL FOR ELECTIONS

PA021335 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] The Supreme Electoral Tribunal, through its president Eustorgio Mendoza, issues a call for elections to be held on 6 May to elect the president of the Republic from the tickets of: Rodrigo Borja Cevallos and Aquiles Rigail, of the Democratic Left-People, Change, and Democracy coalition; and Leon Febres Cordero and Blasco Penaherrera Padilla, of the National Reconstruction Front. These candidates received the largest number of votes during the 29 January and 12 February elections.

The second round of elections will be held from 0700 to 1700, and the citizens who wish to vote must bring their identity cards to exert this civic right. The call for elections specifies that the legal term of the president and vice president will be 4 years, according to the existing Constitution. The elected president, vice-president, and legislators will be sworn in 10 August, after the National Congress is installed. This will mark the start of the second presidential period since the country returned to constitutionality and democracy in 1978.